THE DEVOUT CHRISTIAN

Instructed

How to PRAY and give THANKS to GOD:

OR,

A Book of Devotions FOR FAMILIES,

AND FOR

Particular Persons,

In most of the Concerns of Humane Life.

By *ST. PATRICK*, D. D. now Lord Bishop of *Ely*.

The Eleventh Edition.

1 Thess. 5. 17. *Pray without ceasing.*
18. *In every thing give thanks.*

LONDON,
Printed for *Luke Meredith*, at the *Star* in St. *Paul's* Church-Yard, 1700.

By this book, Sy. Patrick
being dead, yet speaketh to m

1018. e. 29

Family prayer may be ma
a vast engine of power to the
whole domestic circle. It say
there is a God, and inspires re
verence for his character. It p
claims life to come, and poin
to the spirit land. It fixes th
idea of responsibility in th
mind, while it diffuses sy
thetly through the soul. It f
nishes a judicious parent w
an opportunity of glancing
faults, where direct admon
tion might be inexpedient. It
greatly conduces to the main
nance of family government
order, while its spiritual ad
tion are invaluable.

AP2565

The house of Prayer.

It is written My house shall be called of all Nations the house of Prayer Mark. 11. 17.

If they return confess thy name, and pray, and make supplication before thee in this House then hear thou in heaven and forgive. 2 Chron. 6. 24.

BRITISH MUSEUM

THE
Author's Preface.

I Need not tell the well-diſpoſed Reader, there being ſo much ſaid and writ continually on this Argument, how natural and neceſſary it is for all rational Creatures, to look back upon all occaſions to the Author of their Being; that they may make him their hearty acknowledgments for all the Benefits they have received from him, and ſtill recommend themſelves, and all their concerns, to his continued Grace and good Providence. Nor ſhall I go about to ſhew how much the publick Service of GOD in his own Houſe, is to be preferred before the private Devotion of Families at home; there being no reaſon, as far as I underſtand, to make the latter neceſſary, but only becauſe, in moſt

Places Chriſtian people cannot meet together, at the Church every day, Morning and Evening, to give to GOD the Glory that is due unto his Name.

My buſineſs is to deſire him to remember, how natural it is likewiſe to all Mankind to take ſuch good advice beforehand, when they have any petitions or thanks to preſer unto earthly Gods, that they may be delivered in a decent and grave form of words, as well as after a reverent manner: and to conſider therefore with what ſober and prudent care all thoſe expreſſions ought to be weighed, wherein they preſent the humble deſires and grateful affections of their hearts, to the moſt high GOD, the Eternal Majeſty of Heaven and Earth.

It hath not proved, I am ſure, an honour to Religion, that men have learnt to be leſs ſollicitous about the one, than they are about the other. But ſuch have been the licentious rambles of their fancy in ſudden Prayer, ſo bold and rude have their deſcriptions been of Almighty God,

God, ſo raſh their affirmations concerning him, or concerning themſelves, and ſo many untrue or doubtful things have they uttered, that it is ſufficient, in my poor judgment, to bliſt the credit of that way of addreſs to him, as it hath done, alas! with too many, the Credit of Chriſtian Piety, which hath ſuffered ſo extreamly by ſuch extravagance.

I know there are great numbers that will be ready to oppoſe me in this particular, with whom I liſt not diſpute in this ſhort Preface. Let me only beſeech them to uſe ſo much moderation, as not to diſcourage honeſt-hearted People from performing their duty to GOD, by diſgracing any longer, as they have been wont to do, all Book Prayers. Which if they have not the advantage (as I think they have) of ſudden conceptions and expreſſions, yet are ſo neceſſary in the Church, that without them many perſons cannot pray at all. And I hope they will confeſs, upon due deliberation, that though ſome few may have attained an habit of uttering their deſires freely;

and becoming upon any occaſion, yet as the uſe of it before others is too apt to miniſter to pride, vain-glory, and ſelf-conceit; ſo moſt People are ſo defective both in their conceptions, and utterance, as not to be able to diſcharge this holy Duty as they ought, without ſuch aſſiſtance as is here offered them.

How well I have performed what I have undertaken, I muſt leave to the Judgment of others. I am ſure I have proceeded with deliberation; and ſtudied faithfully to avoid all affected expreſſions, fantaſtical alluſions, inſignificant allegories, pretended wit, and elegant converſions of ſentences, and raſh application of the holy Scripture to my preſent purpoſe: which have been the vices, perhaps of ſome forms though not ſo frequently, as well as of mens haſty inventions.

I have laboured alſo to gratifie the Reader, with ſome variety; not becauſe I think it is always beſt to uſe it, but becauſe ſome weak and ſqueamiſh appetites will not be ſatisfied without it. And beſides

beſides Prayers for Families, I have compoſed a great many other for particular perſons; wherein if I have failed in the clearneſs and perſpicuity of my expreſſion, it was much againſt my will: and being admoniſhed of it by my Friends, I will reform it, or any thing elſe that is amiſs.

But the length, or the brevity of the Prayers ſure will not be accuſed, becauſe there are of both ſorts: that they who like not the one, may make uſe of the other.

Some, I doubt not, will complain that they find not a Prayer for ſome particular want of theirs, not here named; but that's a defect which could not be remedied. For I knew not where to ſtop, if I had extended my thoughts beyond thoſe neceſſities which are moſt common; and the reſt, I hope, may be reaſonably well ſupplied out of that, which I have done to ſerve the other.

It is poſſible alſo that ſome may judge this whole Work to be but a needleſs labour: ſince they have the Book of

Common-

Common-Prayers *at hand, which they can uſe at home as well as in the Church. With theſe perſons I ſhall not contend; but only deliver my opinion freely about this matter. Which is, that the reverence due to that Book will be beſt preſerved, by employing it only in the publick Divine Service, or in the private, where there is a Prieſt to officiate. However, the deſign of it is not to furniſh the people with Prayers, for all thoſe particular occaſions, wherein devout Souls would make their requeſts to God. And the conſtant Opinion of pious Divines, in this and in other Churches, we ſee, by their Writings, hath been, that other Books of Prayers, which they have compoſed, are neceſſary for the Flock of Chriſt, beſides their publick Liturgy.*

That which remains is only to intreat thoſe, who will make uſe of this Book, which is here tendred to them; Firſt, to ſtir up their hearts to offer their Praiſes, Thankſgivings and Prayers unto GOD, *our heavenly Father, with fervent devotion of ſpirit. And then,*

not

not to imagine the reading them out of a Book is any hindrance to Devotion; but rather a conſiderable help, and much better than truſting the memory even with a Form. For a man's mind hath nothing to do, when he hath the words before his eyes; but wholly to intend it ſelf, to the raiſing of its affections unto the greateſt heighth and ardency of deſire, and love, and joy, that it is able.

But take heed, I beſeech you, in the laſt place; leſt the performance of theſe holy Duties, with ſome affection, deceive you in the neglect of all the reſt. Our Prayers will be fruitleſs, if they be not attended with our ſerious ſtudy and earneſt labour, to attain that which we beſeech God to beſtow upon us. And therefore with a ſincere hatred of all ſin, and a ſpirit armed with a hearty reſolution againſt it, invoke the Divine Grace for your aſſiſtance.

If you be true Chriſtian Soldiers, that manfully fight under the Banner of our Lord, *call to him for aid, with your Weapons in your hand. With a mind*

bent

bent to consider, desire God to enlighten you. And with an heart stored with the Treasures of Divine Truth, beseech him to quicken and enliven you. And with close and urgent Applications of them to your heart, entreat him to enable you to form and shape your whole Man, Spirit, Soul and Body, according to them. For God is not hard to be entreated, since he entreats us to come to him; yea, gives a great deal of his Grace without asking: but it is the faintness or inconstancy of our endeavours to comply with his Grace and with our own Petitions, that makes them no more prevalent.

They that had no other Director, but the light of their own minds, saw this well enough, and were so sensible of this truth, that they were wont publickly to declaim (as we find in Aristides *his Oration to the* Rhodians *concerning Concord) against the* absurd folly of those who were perpetually importuning the Gods with their Prayers but would do nothing for themselves; no, not those things

Ἄτοπον τὰς θεὰς ἐυχεσθαι, &c.

things which they knew the Gods had put in their power.

And in the ſame manner Demoſthenes *in one of his* Philippicks, *chides the Greeks; comparing them to men,* who ſeeing great hail-ſtones fall upon their heads, prayed that they might be preſerved in ſafety; but would not run away to ſecure themſelves from harm.

And therefore Clemens Alexandrinus *juſtly commends the Wiſdom of thoſe, who made the Laws of the Famous* Olympick *Combats; By which he that entered the liſts, having for a long time before exerciſed his body to feats of activity, was ordered, before he began to contend for the Prize, to ſtand right over-againſt the Statue of* Jupiter, *and to ſay this Prayer,* O God, if I am in all regards duly fitted and prepared, as I ought, for this Combat; vouchſafe in thy righteous judgment, to grant the victory to me. *Even ſo, ſaith he, may a man cheerfully approach to God, who,* faithfully and with a good conſcience, doth all that he Lib. 7. Strom.

he can both to learn his Will, and to exerciſe himſelf in good Works, that are pleaſing to him: for he ſhall have all that can be wiſh'd for the perfecting of his Salvation. Juſt as a Phyſician (*as he goes on*) reſtores health to thoſe who co-operate with his Medicines: ſo will GOD give his Eternal Salvation, to them who work together with him, both unto knowledge, and unto well-doing.

As for thoſe who do not live well, it is plain, ſaith he, in another place, that they do not ſo much as know what things are moſt profitable for themſelves. And if ſo, then it is manifeſt likewiſe that they cannot tell how to pray to GOD to receive good things from him, being ignorant of what is good. Or if they ſhould receive them, they would have no ſenſe at all of the gift, nor uſe it according to its worth and dignity; and that for the very ſame reaſon, becauſe they underſtand not its value.

Lib. 6. Strom.

Inſpire

Inſpire therefore, O God of all Grace, I moſt humbly beſeech thee, both my heart and the hearts of all others who ſhall read this Book with ſuch a godly Will, to endeavour zealouſly in all things to do what is well-pleaſing in thy ſight; that we may comfortably expect the conſtant and powerful Preſence of thy holy Spirit with us, to help us in the performance of our Duty, till we have perfected holineſs in thy fear. And the ſincerity of that love to thee, which we profeſs in our Prayers, being teſtified by an unwearied obſervance of all thy commands; we may be able alſo to wait with an humble confidence for thy ſalvation: who haſt graciouſly promiſed to reward our weak and ſhort obedience in this life, with inconceiveable and endleſs joys in a better World. *Amen.*

Imprimatur.

Sam. Parker *R^mo in Christo Patri ac Domino, D^no* Gilberto *Archiep. Cantuar. à sacris Domest.*

Ex Ædib. Lambeth. Octob. 21. 1672.

PRAYERS FOR FAMILIES.

ON THE *LORD's DAY*

In the *Morning*.

ALmighty and Eternal God, the Lord of Heaven and Earth: we thy Creatures are here proſtrate before Thee, to expreſs our humble and grateful ſenſe of our dependance on thee, to honour Thee with our Praiſes and Thankſgivings; and with an hearty oblation of our ſelves, our Souls and Bodies, to thy Service. We are unworthy, we confeſs, to be admitted to ſpeak unto thy Majeſty, nor

 can

can our thoughts or words add any thing to thy greatneſs, happineſs and glory: but ſince thou art pleaſed in thy infinite goodneſs to do us the honour, not only to admit, but to invite our addreſſes unto thee, that our Spirits may be bettered by lifting up themſelves to thee from whom we come, by meditating thy praiſes, by exciting our love, and paying our acknowledgments to thee, we moſt humbly and thankfully receive this thy great grace and favour towards us. Remembring withall, that it is but juſt and reaſonable we ſhould pay thee our Vows which we made the laſt Night, being ſo graciouſly raiſed up in ſoundneſs of Body and Mind, to ſee the light of this Day; which our Saviour hath made, that we may be glad and rejoice therein.

We laud and magnifie therefore, thy moſt holy Name, thy infinite Power, Wiſdom and Bounty; which all the World proclaims with the higheſt

higheſt Praiſes. We bleſs thee in behalf of all thy Creatures, as well as of our ſelves (to whom thou haſt *given dominion over the works of thy hands*) for *the eyes of all look unto thee, and thou giveſt them their meat in due ſeaſon. Thou openeſt thy hand and ſatisfieſt the deſire of every living thing.* Pſal. 145. 15, 16. But above all, we acknowledge thy ineſtimable Benefits beſtowed upon Mankind in Chriſt Jeſus, the Son of thy Love, whom thou waſt pleaſed, in thy infinite mercy, to ſend among us in our own likeneſs: to aſſure us of thy good-will towards us, and to inſtruct us in our Duty towards thee, and to give us hope of no leſs than immortal life, by patient continuance in well-doing.

We remember with all thankfulneſs his miraculous Birth, at which the Angels rejoiced: his moſt holy Life; his bitter Agony, and bloudy Death; his glorious Reſurrection upon this day from the Grave; his

Aſcenſion into the heavens, to ſit on the right hand of the Majeſty on high; his Triumph over all the Powers of Darkneſs; and his Sovereign Dominion over all Angels, Authorities and Powers, whom thou haſt made ſubject to him. O God, how great was thy love to the ſinful Sons of men! which moved thee to paſs by ſuch innumerable offences whereby they had provoked thy ſevereſt diſpleaſure. How great was that love! which hath honoured our mortal Nature with ſo high a Glory; and committed the care of our immortal Souls to one ſo mighty to ſave, and ſo full of kindneſs, and moſt tender Charity towards us. O the greatneſs of thy love! which hath choſen us to be thy Sons and Heirs, together with Chriſt Jeſus; and ſet ſuch an High-Prieſt over thy Houſe and Family, to make interceſſion for us, to diſpenſe all Divine Bleſſings to us, and ſend forth Angels themſelves to

1 Pet. 3. *ult.*

to be *miniſtring Spirits for them who ſhall be heirs of Salvation.* Heb. 1. *ult.* Who can underſtand the exceeding riches of thy Grace in ſending the Holy Ghoſt to be a Witneſs of our Saviour's Reſurrection and Exaltation; and to make us *abound in hope*, that we ſhall be one day raiſed Rom. 15. 13. from the dead, and carried to heaven, and keep a perpetual reſt, after our ſhort labours here, with our Bleſſed Lord and Maſter, in his eternal Glory.

O that we could begin it this day, in devout Meditations of theſe things, in unſpeakable Joy and Satisfaction of heart in the aſſured hope and expectation of them, and in bleſſing and praiſing thee, who haſt given us ſuch good hope, and everlaſting conſolation. Liſt up our minds, we pray thee, this Morning, above all theſe little things here below, which are apt to diſtract our thoughts, and turn away our eyes from that hea-

venly Bliſs. And keep them above in the ſerious contemplation of it; till we be in love with it, and our hearts be fully bent and reſolved to ſeek it every day in thoſe ways wherein Jeſus hath gone before us, though it ſhould be with the loſs of all that we here poſſeſs. It is but meet and fit that we ſhould wholly quit our own Will, and devote our ſelves to follow thine; eſpecially ſince thou haſt ſhown ſuch unuſual kindneſs towards us, as if we had been innocent, we durſt not have preſumed to expect from thee.

We are aſham'd, O Lord, to think that ever we have diſobeyed thee, to whom we ſtand ſo deeply indebted, both as we are thy Creatures, and as we are redeemed by the precious Blood of thy Son Jeſus. It grieves us, that we have tranſgreſſed any of thy righteous and good Laws, by which it is our happineſs as well as our duty to be govern'd. We abhor the thoughts of ever breaking them

them any more: beſeeching not only thy gracious pardon, but thy acceptance of our intire reſolution to agree with thy Will in all things, for the time to come. We here again moſt ſolemnly dedicate all the Powers of our Souls and Bodies to thy Service: deſiring unfeignedly that all the thoughts and deſigns of our minds, all the affections and paſſions of our hearts, and all the actions of our life and converſation may be pure, holy, and unreproveable in thy ſight.

For which end we moſt humbly implore the aſſiſtance of thy good Spirit, which our Lord hath encouraged us to hope thou wilt give to thoſe that ask and ſeek it with their whole heart. O let thy mercy be upon us according to thy word, according as our hope is in thee, and our hearts ſincerely and ſtedfaſtly ſet to keep thy Commandments. *Search us, O God, and know our hearts: try* Pſal. 139. 23, 24.

us, and know our thoughts. And ſee if there be any way of wickedneſs in us, and lead us in the way everlaſting. Fill our minds with awful and reverent thoughts of thee, as our Sovereign Lord and Judge. Settle in us an immutable love to Thee; and the higheſt eſteem of thy favour and grace, as better than life it ſelf: That ſo we may ſtudy above all things to approve our very hearts, and all our actions to thee: and feel the ſenſe of thy acceptance of us giving us greater pleaſure, than all the World can afford us.

Make it our delight to praiſe thee, to call to mind thy loving kindneſs, to offer to thee the ſacrifice of thankſgiving, and to meditate on thy precious promiſes. Help us to *take heed to our ſelves, leſt our hearts be at any time overcharged with ſurfeiting and drunkenneſs, and the* inordinate *cares of this life: to have our converſation without covetouſneſs, and to be content*

Luke 21. 34.

Heb 13. 5.

content with ſuch things as we have; To poſſeſs our Bodies in ſanctification and honour: 1 Theſſ. 4. 4. *To love our Neighbours as our ſelves: And as we would that others ſhould do to us, to do even ſo to them:* Rom. 13. 9. Matth. 7. 12. *To live peaceably, as much as in us lieth, with all men:* Rom. 12. 18. *To put on the Ornament of a meek and quiet ſpirit. To take thoſe who have ſpoken in the name of our Lord, for an Example of ſuffering affliction, and of patience and when we ſuffer as Chriſtians, not to be aſhamed, but to glorifie thee our God on this behalf.* 1 Pet. 3. 4. James 5. 12. 1 Pet. 4. 16.

And accept, good Lord, of all the praiſes and acknowledgments of all thy People met this Day together, according to thy Will: and aſſiſt us to render thee ſtill more hearty, and affectionate praiſes, in that holy Aſſembly, to which we are going to join our ſelves. O that

all people on the Face of the Earth were united together, likewiſe, in one Body to ſhew forth thy praiſe. O that thy ways were known upon Earth, thy ſaving health among all Nations. And that all Chriſtian Kings eſpecially, may be filled with thy Holy Spirit; and think it their Crown and their Glory, to be the devout Worſhippers and faithful Subjects of the Lord Jeſus, the King of kings, and the Lord of lords. *O that thy Prieſts may be cloathed with righteouſneſs, and thy Saints ſhout aloud for joy.* That all who are in diſtreſs and miſery may rejoice alſo, in hope that all afflictions ſhall turn to their good, and *afterwards yield the peaceable fruit of righteouſneſs.*

Pſal. 132. 9.

Heb. 12. 11.

O Lord, hear us; and make thy Face to ſhine upon thy Servants; that *we may enter into thy Gates with thankſgiving, and into thy Courts with praiſe: That we may be thankful unto thee, and bleſs thy Name:*

For

For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlaſting: and his truth endureth to all generations. Pſal. 100. 4, 5 Amen, Amen, for Jeſus Chriſt his ſake; in whoſe words we conclude our imperfect Prayers.

Our Father, &c.

At Night.

O Lord moſt high, the Holy One, who inhabiteſt Eternity, who only haſt immortality, and art moſt bleſſed in thy own incomprehenſible Perfections. Thou art to be feared and loved, to be worſhipped and praiſed, by us and all reaſonable Creatures; who have any knowledge, how great, how mighty, how wiſe and merciful thou art. All thy Works praiſe thee, O Lord, and we more eſpecially ought to bleſs thee; whom thou haſt made to underſtand thy moſt adorable Excellencies, which are far beyond the higheſt of all

all our thoughts. And we have yet a more particular obligation to thee, for thy marvellous love in Chriſt Jeſus, whom thou haſt ſent in great humility to viſit us, who are but Duſt and Aſhes; to make his abode among us; to teſtifie thy great love to us, to aſſure us of thy good-will, notwithſtanding our many offences; and to make us *exceeding great and precious promiſes*, to invite us to approach thee, and to encourage our obedience to thee. We thank thee that he hath ſealed them with his blood; and that thou haſt confirmed them by his Reſurrection and Aſcenſion, and the coming of the Holy Ghoſt; and haſt alſo given us ſo many happy opportunities to acquaint our ſelves with the truth and purity of the Chriſtian Religion: which comforts us in this ſtate of mortality and miſery, with the bleſſed hope of eternal life.

Bleſſed be thy goodneſs for that great conſolation; and that thou haſt ſhown us the way to it by his Do-

Doctrine and Example; and aſſureſt us of the aſſiſtance of thy holy Spirit to enable us to follow after him, to that Glory which he poſſeſſes. Bleſſed be thy Goodneſs, that we have felt it ſo often in our minds and hearts; inſpiring us with holy thoughts, exciting in us devout affections and godly reſolutions, filling us with Divine Joys, and with comfortable expectations of the Glory that ſhall be revealed. We thank thee, that thou haſt permitted us this Day to attend upon thee, together with our Chriſtian Brethren, in the publick Duties of thy Worſhip and Service. And that there we have received any good Inſtructions, any holy exhortation, and Chriſtian encouragements, to proceed and go forward in the courſe of well-doing: and have begun in any meaſure that eternal reſt, which we wait for with all the faithful; when we ſhall praiſe, and thank, and love thee our heavenly Father better than we

can

can do now, whilſt we are in theſe frail Bodies and abſent from the Lord.

We can do no leſs than offer up again our Souls and Bodies to thee, to be ordered and governed by thy bleſſed Will, and not our own: that ſo we may be every day more prepared for that happy State, and draw nearer and nearer in the diſpoſition and temper of our Spirits to that immortal Bleſſedneſs. It is our ſatisfaction, our ſecurity, the eaſe and joy of our hearts, to be under the conduct of thy unerring Wiſdom; to follow thy counſels, and to be determined in all things by thy holy Will: who art ſo good, and haſt given us ſuch large demonſtrations of thy abundant kindneſs and good-will to us, as will not let us diſtruſt thy tender care of us; whatſoever it is thou would'ſt have us do or ſuffer in this World.

O God, purifie our minds and thoughts more perfectly, that we may never conceive amiſs of thee; but

but have right apprehenſions in all things: and purifie all our paſſions and affections likewiſe, that we may entirely love thee; and rejoice in being beloved of thee; and humbly confide in thee, and abſolutely reſign our ſelves to thee, and be filled with conſtant devotion towards thee our Almighty Creator, and moſt merciful Redeemer. Poſſeſs our hearts with ſuch a lively ſenſe of our relation to thee on both reſpects, and of the honour thou haſt done us in preferring us ſo much above the reſt of our Fellow-Creatures; that we may ever behave our ſelves ſuitable to the dignity of our Nature, and of our Religion.

O that we may never degenerate into a baſe and unworthy love of any thing here below: nor be oppreſſed with the burden of the cares of this life: nor ſink under the weight of any affliction, nor be vainly puffed up with the greateſt fulneſs of earthly Goods, if thou art pleaſed to beſtow

ſtow them on us. But aſſiſt us with thy Grace, to *abhor that which is evil, and cleave to that which is good.* Diſpoſe us to a diſcreet and temperate uſe of all the pleaſures of this World. Endue us with true modeſty and humility of Spirit, that we may *not think of our ſelves more highly than we ought to think; but think ſoberly, according to the meaſure which thou haſt dealt unto us.* Keep us from being *wiſe in our own conceits:* and enable us ſo to order our ſelves, that *our moderation may be known to all men.* Make us *kindly affectioned one to another in brotherly love:* To delight in doing good; *to ſhew all meekneſs to all men: To render to all their Dues; Tribute to whom Tribute is due, Cuſtom to whom Cuſtom, Fear to whom Fear, Honour to whom Honour: and to owe no Man any thing, but to love one another.* Make us ſo happy, that we may

Rom. 12. 9.

Rom. 12. 3. 10. 16.

Phil. 4. 5.

Tit. 3. 2. Rom. 13. 7, 8.

may be able to *love our Enemies, to bleſs thoſe that curſe us, to do good to them that hate us, to rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.* Compoſe our Spirits to a quiet and ſteady dependance on thy good Providence; that we may not *take* too much *thought for our life, nôr be careful for any thing: but by Prayer and ſupplication with thankſgiving, ſtill make known our requeſts to thee our God.* And help us *to pray always, and not faint: In every thing to give thanks, and offer up the Sacrifice of praiſe continually: To paſs the time of our ſojourning here in fear: To believe thoſe things which we do not ſee, and to rejoice in hope of thy Glory: To poſſeſs our Souls in patience: And to learn in whatſoever ſtate we are, therewith to*

Matt. 5. 24. Rom. 12. 15.

Matth. 6. 25. Phil. 4. 6.

Luke 18. 1. 1 Theſſ. 5. 18.

Heb. 13. 15.

1 Pet. 1. 17. Rom. 5. 2.

Luke 21. 19.

Phil. 4. 11, 12.

be content: Make us *know both how to be abaſed, and how to abound: every where, and in all things inſtruct us, both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to ſuffer need: being enabled to do all things through Chriſt which ſtrengtheneth us.* That we feeling the joys of uprightneſs and integrity of heart, our Religion may be the greateſt comfort and pleaſure to us, and we our ſelves an Ornament to our Religion.

O that we could alway by an innocent, good and uſeful life, commend the Doctrine of God, our Saviour, to thoſe who converſe with us: And that the light of all Chriſtians did ſo ſhine before men, that others beholding their good works, might be moved to glorifie thee, and heartily to believe on the Lord Jeſus. Send forth thy Light and thy Truth into all the dark Corners of the Earth: That *all Kings may fall down before him, and all Nations ſerve him.* And

Pſal. 72. 11, 12, 13, 14.

en-

endue them whom thou haſt placed in ſuch high Authority over others with that Divine Spirit which was in him: that they may *deliver the needy when he crieth; the poor alſo, and him that hath no helper. That they may ſpare the poor and needy, and ſave and redeem their ſoul from deceit and violence: and their blood may be precious in their ſight.*

Bleſs theſe Kingdoms wherein we live; and as thou haſt long continued to us the knowledge of thy Truth: ſo give us Grace to bring forth Fruit becoming the Goſpel; that thou mayeſt not cut us down as barren Trees, which cumber the Ground. Lord ſave the King, and eſtabliſh his Throne in righteouſneſs, that we may ſee many happy days under his Government, and be *comforted now after the time that thou haſt plagued us; and for the years wherein we have ſuffered adverſity.* Pſal. 90. 15. Proſper the pious endeavours of all thoſe that faithfully

fully feed and inſtruct thy People; and encreaſe the number of them. O that the Seed which hath been ſown this day, may take deep Root in all our hearts, and bring forth Fruit abundantly: that being not *forgetful hearers, but doers of the word, we may be all bleſſed in our deeds.* Help us in all the Week follow, to *ſet a watch before our mouth; and to keep the door of our lips.* Preſerve us, that our *heart incline not to any evil thing, to practiſe wicked works, with Men that work iniquity:* but we may be always *Followers of that which is good; and as we have received how we ought to walk and pleaſe thee our God, ſo we may abound more and more.*

James 1.25,26.

Pſal. 141. 3,4.

1 Pet. 3. 13.

1 Theſſ. 4. 1.

Protect us, we beſeech thee, and all our Friends every where, this Night. Grant us quiet and undiſturbed reſt and ſleep: and awaken in the Morning theſe good thoughts and

and deſires again in our hearts, *that the words of our Saviour may abide in us, and we in him*; till we come to endleſs life together wirh him: by whom we are encouraged thus to addreſs our ſelves unto thee, and to continue to pray, as he hath taught us in his holy Goſpel, ſaying, John 15. 7.

Our Father, &c.

A ſhorter Form of Prayer for the Lord's Day *Morning.*

O Moſt holy and eternally Bleſſed, *The heaven, and the heaven of heavens is thine, the earth alſo, with all that therein is.* Deut. 10. 14. Thou art every where, and canſt not be excluded from any place: but are preſent to the greateſt ſecrets of our Souls, and ſeeſt the cloſeſt and moſt retired thoughts of our hearts. Thou knoweſt very well with what deſigns and affections we now bow our

our ſelves before thee, and canſt not be deceived by any words that we are able to ſpeak in thy praiſe, whilſt our hearts are far from thy fear and love.

Behold, O. Lord, our hearts are full with deſires to be poſſeſſed with a mighty reverent ſenſe of thee, and of all the benefits thou haſt bestowed on us: and to be lifted up to Heaven in love to thee, and joy in thee whilſt we bleſs and praiſe thee, and ſpeak good of thy Name. We here remember with all humility and thankfulneſs that thou art our Creator, and acknowledge thy care and Providence over thy ancient people, in bleſſing and ſanctifying a day wherein thou thy ſelf reſtedſt from thy Works, that they might ceaſe from all other employments, and admire thy wonderful Works, extol thy Power, bleſs thy Goodneſs, and be aſtoniſhed at thy Wiſdom, in making, preſerving, adorning and governing this excellent Frame of the

World.

World. *The heavens declare thy glory, O God, and the firmament ſheweth thy handy-work.* The Sun, the Moon, and all the Hoſt of Heaven proclaim the greatneſs and ſplendor of thy Majeſty. *The whole Earth is full of thy rich Goodneſs: ſo is the great and wide Sea, wherein are things moving innumerable, both ſmall and great living Creatures.* Pſal. 104. 24. There is nothing but what ſpeaks of thee; and above all, the Children of Men whom thou haſt wonderfully made, and curiouſly wrought, and impreſſed with thine own Image; that they might underſtand thee and love thee, in all and above all things.

The variety, the order, the ſtedfaſtneſs of all thy Works in this great World, abundantly utter thy adorable perfections. But thou, O Lord, by thy goodneſs in giving thy Son for us, and then raiſing him up from the dead, and ſetting him at thy right hand, haſt given us new matter of won-

wonder and praiſe; and conſecrated a better reſt and holy day of rejoicing, wherein we ſhould behold the Glories of another World, and have before our eyes the happineſs thou intendeſt for us there, together with all the excellent means which lead unto it. Thou giveſt us occaſion not only to reflect upon all the good things thou haſt provided for our Bodies; (which we can never acknowledge enough: the very health and eaſe of one Day deſerving the thankfulneſs of many) but we muſt alſo remember, that we are thy redeemed ones, and that thou haſt done great things for our Souls in thy Son Jeſus, who is entred into the heavens for us, and gone to prepare a reſting place for all thoſe that follow him. This exceeding Riches of thy Grace infinitely ſurpaſſes all our acknowledgments; ſince all the Praiſes we are able to render thee, are leſs than is due for thy temporal Bleſſings.

To this love we owe the knowledge

ledge of thee, the true and only God: our freedom from Idolatry, and a vain converſation; the true Principles of holy living; the benefit of repentance; the promiſe of a pardon; the aſſiſtance of thy Holy Spirit; the Miniſtry of thy Angels; the hope of Immortal Life; and the Pledges our Lord hath left us of his endleſs love. To this we owe thy forbearance in the days of our ignorance; thy unwearied patience towards us in a continual rebellion; and thy earneſt entreaties of us, when we were paſſionately bent upon our own deſtruction. Thou haſt ſent us, in much love, many holy Inſtructors and Guides to bleſſedneſs. We have had the Benefit of ſundry pious Sermons, good Examples, wholeſome Admonitions, and ſerious Counſels of the Power of the Holy Ghoſt, and divers reſtraints of fear, and ſhame, and love; and thou ſtill purſueſt us with thy merciful kindneſs, and beſeecheſt us to attend to thy gracious

invitations, and receive thy Bleſſi gs, and make thee our Choice, and be eternally happy in thy Divine favour and likeneſs. What ſhall we render to the Lord for all his Benefits towards us?

O help us to manifeſt our real and unfeigned deſires to make ſome worthy returns to thee, by our careful improvement of the holy opportunity which thou this Day putteſt into our hands. O that our minds may be more enlightened to underſtand the truth, as it is in Jeſus: that our Wills may be more ſtedfaſtly reſolv'd to cleave unto it; that our affections may be excited to a ſtronger and more ardent love to thee, and to a greater delight in thee; and all the powers of our Souls diſpoſed to ſerve thee at all other times, more chearfully and readily, in all the Duties of Piety, Soberneſs, Righteouſneſs, and Mercy. So that every Day may become an holy reſt to the Lord, by ceaſing to do evil, and conſtantly doing

ing well: and we may glorifie thee throughout out whole life; in all our actions *ſhewing forth thy praiſes, who haſt called us out of darkneſs into thy marvellous light.* 1 Pet. 2. 9. And enlighten, Good Lord, the whole World with the Beams of thy glorious Goſpel. And diſpoſe the Hearts of all Chriſtian people, among whom the Sun of Righteouſneſs hath ſhone ſo long, to walk as Children of the Light: That ſo they may offer up unto thee this day moſt acceptable Sacrifices, for themſelves and for all Mankind; and be fitted and prepared by ſerving thee in righteouſneſs and true holineſs here, to ſhine for ever, in his heavenly Kingdom, with Chriſt Jeſus our Saviour. By whom thou haſt given us a good hope in Thee, that thou wilt hear our Prayers, and do for us above all that we can ask or think; which we humbly beg in thoſe holy words, which he hath taught us, ſaying,

Our Father, &c.

Another at Night.

O Moſt Bleſſed for evermore; the Father of Mercies, and the God of all Comfort. *How precious are thy thoughts to us ward? How great is the ſumm of them?* Thou reneweſt thy favours continually, and art ſtill pouring upon us innumerable Benefits; of which this is not the leaſt, that thou giveſt us leave to come into thy Preſence, to call thee Father, and to make known our requeſts to thee, by Prayer and Supplication with Thankſgiving. We accept, O Lord, with all thankfulneſs this thy great grace and loving kindneſs to us; and are here again proſtrate before thee this Evening, to acknowledge thy Goodneſs in making us ſuch excellent Creatures; capable to know thee, and acknowledge thee, and love thee, and by being made like thee, to be eternally happy with thee.

Bleſſed be thy name, that we are now alive; and that we have lived ſo long in health, and ſtrength, and peace, and plenty of all good things: whereas our Eyes might have been conſumed with grief, our Bones ſore vexed, and we might have mingled our Drink with continual weeping. We are bound unto thee for the free uſe of our underſtandings; for the good inclinations we find in our Will; for any devout affections which are ſtirring in our hearts; for all the advantages we have had by our education, good company, and holy examples: and more eſpecially for the illuminations of the Holy Ghoſt by thy bleſſed Goſpel; the breathings of it frequently into our Spirits; the importunities thou haſt uſed to draw us to thee; and the great and precious promiſes whereby thy love in Chriſt Jeſus conſtrains us to reſign our ſelves intirely to the obedience of thy Precepts,

We ought likewiſe to admire and

praiſe thee, for thy Goodneſs to all thy Creatures, who live daily upon thy bounteous allowance. *The eyes of all wait on thee, and thou giveſt them their food in due ſeaſon.* Thou diffuſeſt thy Bleſſings in ſeveral Streams to every one of them, according to their needs. *That thou giveſt them, they gather: thou openeſt thy hand, they are filled with good.* We give thee the Glory of thy plentiful proviſion thou haſt made for them; and more particularly admire thy great liberality to the Children of Men; under whoſe feet thou haſt put in ſubjection, *all Sheep and Oxen, yea, and the Beaſts of the Field, the Fowl of the Air, and the Fiſh of the Sea, and whatſoever paſſeth through the paths of the Waters.* O Lord, we praiſe thee for thy Goodneſs to thoſe who praiſe thee not themſelves. Be thou adored and acknowledged in thy Bounty, which beſtows ſo many Bleſſings unasked and unſought: and

Pſal. 145.

Pſal. 104. 28.

and continues them notwithſtanding abundance of provocations, and moſt high offences that they have given to thy merciful kindneſs.

And let thy Goodneſs to thy Church be never forgotten by us, which thou haſt in all Ages protected and defended: in a marvellous manner propagating the Goſpel of our Saviour, confounding its Oppoſers, and ſpreading it by the Power of the Holy Ghoſt over the face of the Earth. We thank thee for thy ſingular favour to theſe Countries wherein we live. To whom theſe glad-tidings of Salvation have reached; and who have long enjoyed a more glorious light than many other places; and being delivered from the darkneſs of Popiſh Superſtition, and from ſundry attempts that have been made to bereave us of this happineſs; and are again ſettled after many confuſions in a peaceable enjoyment of thy true Religion: which thou haſt alſo continued to

us, though we have not brought forth Fruit worthy of the Goſpel of thy Grace.

O that all thy undeſerved Goodneſs may have this effect upon us; to make us heartily love thee, and devoutly worſhip thee, and zealously obey thee, and ſtedfaſtly truſt and hope in thee for ever. That by a careful improvement of *the knowledge of thee our God, and our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, by whom thou haſt given us all things that pertain unto Life and Godlineſs*; we may ſtill enjoy this ineſtimable treaſure, and all thy love to us may at laſt be finiſhed in thoſe eternal joys, which he hath promiſed to the faithful. And as we have been taught, exhorted and encouraged this Day out of thy holy Word; and have likewiſe publickly acknowledged our obligations to thee, and made profeſſion of love, and gratitude, and dutifulneſs to thy Divine Majeſty: ſo help us all the Week following openly to teſtifie the truth

and

and honeſty of our hearts, in all this, by a blameleſs converſation; in all humility, meekneſs, temperance, righteouſneſs, charity, and peace, *With all them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.*

Bleſs our Sovereign, the Defender of the Faith we profeſs, and all employed under him, in their ſeveral Offices: that they may be Inſtruments of continuing to us theſe holy opportunities; with all other good things that may make theſe Kingdoms happy. O that all our Friends may be thine; and if we have any Enemies, Father, forgive them. Comfort and ſupport the ſick, the needy, and all other diſtreſſed perſons, with an immoveable belief of thy wiſe and good Providence; to which give them Grace patiently and obediently to reſign themſelves. And when all our ſenſes this Night ſhall be bound up with ſleep, be thou, O Lord, our Keeper: and after the refreſhment of that repoſe, and this holy reſt from

our Labours, raiſe us in the Morning to return unto them with chearful minds, and ready wills; praiſing ſtill and magnifying thy multiplied mercies to us in Chriſt Jeſus, by whom we preſent our ſelves and Petitions to thee; ſaying further, as he hath taught us,

Our Father, &c.

Another for the Afternoon, or any other time of that Day.

O Moſt Holy, Glorious, and Bleſſed. Thy Name is excellent in all the Earth, and thou art for ever praiſed by all the Hoſt of Heaven, who are never weary of thy Service. We thy Creatures, ſinful Duſt and Aſhes, have many times profeſſed it is our happineſs to join with thoſe Heavenly Inhabitants in admiring, worſhipping, bleſſing, and loving Thee, the great Lord of all; with pure

pure hearts, in unity of Spirit, ſincere friendſhip, and brotherly accord one with another. We have often ſpoken great things of thee; and declared thy Service to be the ſweeteſt pleaſure, and one hour ſpent in holy Meditations, devout Affections, and chearful Thankſgivings, to be far better than all the time we ſpend in other employments.

How much then, if we mean ſincerely, and according to our words, ſhould our hearts rejoice that we may ſpend a day in thy Courts, and are invited to a longer attendance on thy Divine Majeſty, in the duties of thy Worſhip and Service? We are aſhamed that any wearineſs ſhould ſeize on our Spirits; and that it ſhould be irkſome to us, to renew our thoughts and acknowledgments of thy infinite Goodneſs. Behold, O Lord, we are reſolved again to addreſs our ſelves unto thee with praiſe and thankſgiving, for granting us ſuch happy opportunities to look back

back to thee, the Author of our Being; to lift up our Souls towards our Heavenly Country; and unite them to the firſt and chiefeſt Good; from whence we derive whatſoever we have or hope to enjoy. Beſeeching thee to help us to draw near unto thee, with hearts full of wonder at thy incomprehenſible Majeſty; full of love to thy moſt Wiſe and Almighty Goodneſs; full of thankfulneſs for thy Benefits; full of deſires to be what thou wouldſt have us; and full of joy that thou wouldſt have us be ſo happy, in being made thy Children, Partakers of a Divine Nature, and Heirs of Immortal Life.

We admire thy Glory, O great Lord of Heaven and Earth, which ſhines in the whole Creation; thy greater Glory in the Work of our Redemption, by the miraculous Birth, Life, Death, and Reſurrection of Chriſt Jeſus; and the greateſt of all which we hope and wait for at his Appearing, when he *ſhall come to be admi-*

admired in his Saints, and glorified in all them that believe. Thou haſt done great things for us already, thou haſt promiſed to do greater, and thou art daily performing thy Promiſes, and preparing us for the accompliſhment of them all, in the higheſt Bleſſedneſs.

O God of all grace, make us wiſer Stewards than we have been, of thy manifold Gifts and Graces, which we are intruſted withal. Help us carefully to husband this ſacred opportunity which thou continueſt to us, to the beſt advantage of our immortal Souls. Gather in our thoughts from our ordinary buſineſs. Fix them on thy ſelf; and hold them in the contemplation of thy infinite Mercies, and of thoſe Divine Truths which repreſent our Duty, and thy exceeding love and kindneſs towards us. Chaſe away all worldly affections, and over-awe our Spirits with a ſenſe of thy divine preſence; that by ſerving thee with a religious reverence

this

this day, we may be diſpoſed to walk in thy fear all the reſt of our lives: Having a grateful remembrance of thy benefits; a deep and ſerious reflection upon our own reſolutions, and thy gracious promiſes: an holy jealouſie over our ſelves, leſt we ſhould be unfaithful to them: and a pious care in all things to approve our ſelves the conſtant and diligent Servants of the Lord Jeſus.

O that our thankfulneſs, and good affections, and zealous deſires, may not end with our Prayers, nor conclude with this Day: But we may be poſſeſſed with ſuch a ſtrong and habitual ſenſe of thee, and of our obligations to thee, that we may every day earneſtly and heartily ſerve thee in all the actions of Chriſtian Piety, and be unwearied in well-doing unto the concluſion of our lives. Grant this, O heavenly Father, with all other things which thou judgeſt neceſſary for us, or for thy whole Church; whoſe Services this day we hum-

humbly beſeech thee, may be acceptable to thee, though the Merits and Interceſſion of Chriſt Jeſus, our moſt bleſſed Lord and Saviour. To whom with Thee, and the Holy Ghoſt, be rendred, as is moſt due, all Honour, Thankſgiving and Praiſe, with the moſt affectionate and faithful Obedience, both now and for ever more. *Amen.*

Another.

O Moſt holy, great and glorious Majeſty of Heaven and Earth. To whom all the bleſſed Company above, do with the higheſt admiration and love, give continual praiſe, and thanks, and honour, and worſhip, and obedience; acknowledgeing thou art above all that they are able to ſpeak of thee, or aſcribe and render thee. Much more art thou exalted above the thoughts of ſuch poor Mortals as we, who are cloathed with Fleſh, and live far remote from the

the Throne of thy glory. And yet, ſuch is thy goodneſs, thou condeſcendeſt to admit; nay, to draw us to a Fellowſhip with thoſe holy Spirits; that we may thereby be made happy and called thy Servants, though when we have done the beſt we can, very unprofitable.

What is Man, that thou art mindful of him? What are the Sons of Men that thou doſt at all conſider them? Thou haſt crowned us with Glory and Honour here below, and raiſed us to a Dominion over the works of thy hands. Thou haſt endued us with underſtandings to know thee, and with Wills to love thee; whoſe moſt excellent Wiſdom, Almighty Power, and ſurpaſſing Goodneſs, we diſcover in all thy works of wonder.

But what is ſinful man, that thou ſhouldeſt ſo much regard him, as to ſend after him, to ſeek and ſave him, when he was loſt? Lord, What Grace was this, that thou ſhouldeſt vouch-

ſafe

ſafe to ſpeak with us, and communicate any thing of thy mind to ſuch forgetful and ungrateful Wretches?

But that thou ſhouldeſt ſpeak to us by thy Son, and declare thy mind in ſuch words of Grace and Favour, and publiſh ſuch kind intentions towards us, and recover us with ſo much coſt, and purchaſe us to thy ſelf with the precious bloud of thy Son Jeſus, and ſend thy holy Spirit to purifie us; that we might have thy Image renewed in us, and be made fit Society for thy ſelf again, and reſtored to immortal life: Lord! how much doth it exceed all belief, hadſt thou not given us, in tender Mercy, ſuch abundant aſſurance of it?

We have thoſe Reaſons to bleſs thee, which the Angels have not. We muſt admire thee, not only as the great Creator and Preſerver of all things, which we heartily do, and give thee the Glory of all thy marvellous works: but alſo as the

Redeemer

Redeemer of Mankind out of a forlorn condition, by the manifeſtation of thy ſelf in our fleſh, by the blood of thy Son, the conſtant breathings of the Holy Ghoſt, the light of thy Goſpel, and an unwearied Patience, which hath waited on us, and propounded to us no leſs happineſs than to ſit together in heavenly places in Chriſt Jeſus; who is advanced far above all Principalities and Powers, and every Name that is named, not only in this World, but in that alſo which is to come.

We praiſe thee, O God; we magnifie thy moſt holy Name; we confeſs our ſelves bound to thee above all other Creatures, that we have any knowledge of: for we are twice thy Creatures, and thou haſt a double title to all we have. O ſtir up all that is within us to bleſs thee, and love thee, and offer up the Sacrifice of thankſgiving to thee. Fill our hearts with joy and gladneſs, that we have another opportunity, wherein to recount

count thy Mercies to us to be further inſtructed in thy Mind and Will declared by our Saviour; and to be under the comfortable influences of Heaven, to cheriſh thoſe holy thoughts, affections, and reſolutions, which are begun in us, and to promote our growth and encreaſe in all Wiſdom, Goodneſs and Vertue.

Poſſeſs us with ſuch a ſtrong ſenſe of thy continued love towards us; that we may teſtifie our true and hearty thankfulneſs for it, by attentive conſideration of all that we hear out of thy Holy Word; and by laying it up in our hearts; and eſteeming it more than the greateſt Treaſures of this World: and endeavouring every Day to have our Converſation as becometh the Goſpel of Chriſt. That ſo our Praiſes being not meerly words, but real deeds, and all the fruits of righteouſneſs; we may be bleſſed in our deed, and at laſt here our Lord ſpeaking to us in thoſe gracious words, *Come ye bleſſed of my Father, inherit*

inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the beginning of the World. And let thy merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the Prayers and thankful acknowledgments of thy whole Church. Which we beſeech thee *to defend and cleanſe: and becauſe it cannot continue in ſafety without thee, preſerve it evermore by thy help and goodneſs.* The whole Body of it is govern'd and ſanctified by thy Spirit, whoſe Heavenly Grace we implore for all Eſtates of men in thy Holy Church; *that every Member of the ſame in his Vocation and Miniſtry, may truly and godlily ſerve thee, through our Lord and Saviour Jeſus Chriſt.* Who was content to die for us; and is raiſed from the dead, and now lives for evermore to make interceſſion for us; to whom with thee, O Father of Mercies, and thy Holy Spirit, be eternal Praiſes. *Amen.*

A Pray-

A Prayer for the Morning, when there is a Communion.

O Moſt holy, holy, holy Lord God Almighty; the Father of Mercies, the God of Peace and Comfort, by whoſe Power we, and all things elſe, were created, and by whoſe good Providence we are all preſerved and maintained. Be thou eternally bleſſed and praiſed, worſhipped and ſerved, with the moſt ardent love, who haſt made mankind ſo like to thy ſelf, and ordered ſo many of thy Creatures to ſerve us, and choſen rather to make us anew, and *create us* again *in Chriſt Jeſus unto good works*, than let us be undone by our ſhameful diſobedience to thee. For thou *haſt ſent thy only begotten Son into the World* (adored be thy inconceivable *love!*) *that whoſoever believeth in him might not periſh, but have everlaſting Life.* And he hath laid

Ephes. 2. 10.

John 3. 16.

laid down his Life for that end, and redeemed us by his Blood from the hands of our enemies; and triumphed over them all moſt glorioufly; and in token thereof aſcended into Heaven; and poſſeſſed the Crown of Immortal Life, and ſat down at thy right hand, and obtained Dominion over Angels, and Men and all Creatures.

We have felt the bleſſed fruits of his Death, and Reſurrection, and Royal Power, whereby *he is able to ſave to the uttermoſt all them that come to thee by him.* Thy holy ſpirit hath breathed often into our hearts: we have been inſtructed in the Goſpel of thy Grace: and thy Servants, the Miniſters of thy Word, have not ceaſed to call upon us, yea, to importune us to follow after our Saviour, to that heavenly bliſs in which he lives. And now again thou vouchſafeſt to us an happy opportunity to improve our ſelves in Chriſtian Wiſdom, Devoti-

Heb. 7. 25.

on,

on, and Holineſs; and we have received thy kind invitations to the neareſt approaches to thy Divine Majeſty.

O fill us, we pray thee, with a lively and ſtrong ſenſe of thy bounteous Goodneſs, which hath been ſo many ways expreſſed towards us. Fill us with pious diſpoſitions to receive more of it according to thy precious promiſes in Chriſt Jeſus. Stir up in us ſuch thankful acknowledgments to Thee, ſuch hearty reſolutions to obey Thee, ſuch earneſt deſires and longings to partake more and more of thy Divine Nature, ſuch love, delight, and joy in well-doing, that our Souls may be lifted up above, to that glorious place where our dear Saviour is; and we may comfortably expect, and be truly prepared for, a bleſſed tranſlation thither at the great Day of his appearing.

Our great unfruitfulneſs, we confeſs, in the knowledge of Chriſt, may juſtly make thee deny thy gracious

cious influences from Heaven upon us. But, O God of all grace, who multiplieſt Mercy, and delighteſt in doing good, pardon us, and make us better; by the Blood of thy Son interceeding for us, and the power of thy Spirit working in us. Quicken our Souls to hear thy Holy Word with greater fear and reverence; to ſing thy praiſes with greater chearfulneſs and gladneſs; to pray to thee with more earneſt affection and ſteadineſs of mind, to approach to thy holy Table with the deepeſt humility and devotion of ſpirit; and to receive the renewed pledges of thy love, to our very great encreaſe in Faith, and Hope, and Love, to Thee, and to all the World: that ſo this may be a good Day to our Souls, and we may be diſpoſed and enabled to ſpend the reſt of our Days better, as becomes the redeemed of the Lord, who have taſted how gracious he is, and who have received the earneſt of Eternal Life. O that our con-

converſation may be in Heaven, by the conſtant love and exerciſe of purity, righteouſneſs, mercy and godlineſs: That we ever ſtudying to glorifie thee, our heavenly Father, by bearing much of this good Fruit, may have the more aſſured hope, that thou wilt glorifie us with thy ſelf.

And inſpire, we beſeech thee, the hearts of all others that meet together this Day, to magnifie thy great and glorious Name, with the like religious affections towards thee. *Kings of the Earth, and all People; Princes, and all Judges of the Earth;* Pſal. 148. 11, 12. *Both young men and maidens, old men and children; let them praiſe the Name of the Lord; for his Name alone is excellent, his Glory is above the Earth and Heaven. Let them offer to him the ſacrifice of thankſgiving, and declare his works with rejoicing.* Pſal. 107. 22. *Let them preſent themſelves a living Sacrifice, holy, acceptable* Rom. 12. 1.

ceptable unto him, which is our reaſonable ſervice.

Teach us all, O God, the way of thy Statutes; and enable us *to keep it unto the end.* Diſpoſe our hearts to ſuch a love of all Chriſtian Vertues that we may *put on (as thy elect Children holy and beloved) bowels of mercies, kindneſs, humbleneſs of mind, meekneſs, long ſuffering, forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel againſt any; even as Chriſt forgave us, incline us all ſo to do, and above all theſe things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectneſs.* And *let the peace of thee our God rule in our hearts, to which we are called in one Body; and make us ever truly thankful.* Hear us we beſeech thee, O moſt merciful Father; and after we have perfected holineſs here in thy fear, bring us all to compleat our praiſes and thankſgivings to thee, in the great Aſſembly of Saints and Angels,

Pſal. 119. 35.

Coloſ. 3. 10, 12, &c.

through Chriſt Jeſus our Bleſſed Lord and Saviour: *To whom be Glory both now and for ever.* Amen. 2 Pet. 3. ult.

Our Father, &c.

A Prayer at Night, when there hath been a Communion.

O Eternally Bleſſed Lord God; the Creatour of the World, the Father of Angels and Men, the King of Infinite Majeſty and Power, who canſt do what thou pleaſeſt every where. *The heaven, and the heaven of heavens cannot contain thee*; who art enthroned only in thy own Greatneſs, and crowned with the Glory of thy own uncommunicated perfections. There is nothing can be added to thee by us or any other Creatures; of whoſe Services thou haſt no need, ſeeing thou art abſolute- 2 Chron. 6. 18

ly happy in thy ſelf, *and giveſt to all life, and breath, and all things.* But it is our perfection and happineſs to admire and praiſe thee whom we cannot comprehend; to love thee as much as we know thee; and to obey thee as much as we love thee, *with a perfect heart, and with a willing mind; for the Lord ſearcheth all hearts, and underſtandeth all the imaginations of the thoughts.*

Acts 17. 25.

1 Chron. 28. 9.

We praiſe thee therefore, O God, we acknowledge thee to be the Lord. We give thee the Glory that is due unto thy Name: and with hearty love offer up our ſelves again intirely unto thee, whoſe we are, and for whom we were made. Juſtice and gratitude, fear and love, hope and intereſt, whatſoever hath any power to move our hearts, do all preſs, and mightily urge us conſtantly to devote and conſecrate our Souls and Bodies to thy faithful Service. We can-

cannot neglect thee, unleſs we will caſt away our ſelves; nor ſin againſt thee, unleſs we will be our own Accuſers, Judges and Tormentors; and throw our ſelves into the greateſt miſeries. Thou haſt been ſo good to us; that if we ſhould not become good likewiſe, we muſt hate and abhor our ſelves; who cannot but love and delight in thoſe, who ſhow us any kindneſs, and beſtow any benefits upon us: though they are but thy Miniſters and Servants, that have nothing, and can do nothing, but what thou haſt given them, and inclineſt them to do.

By thee we were formed and brought out of our Mother's Womb. And by a greater mercy were early born again, and made thy Children in Chriſt Jeſus. We have been thy care ever ſince; and been inſtructed in that Covenant of Grace (into which at our Baptiſm we were received) by the knowledge thou haſt given us of thy Bleſſed Goſpel.

Wherein we read the great love of our Saviour in dying for us; and have the promiſe of his Spirit to ſanctifie and govern us; his holy Precepts for the Rule of our actions; his glorious Example to excite and quicken us; and the hope of eternal Bliſs by his Reſurrection from the dead, to encourage and comfort us in well-doing. And in the mean time we enjoy the Society of thy Saints; the Miniſtery of thy Angels; and the direction and aſſiſtance of thy faithful Servants, thy Ambaſſadors of Peace and Reconciliation with thee.

All which Fruits of thy wonderful Love we have long enjoyed; and thou haſt this day entertained us at thy Table; where thou haſt refreſhed us with the Communion of the Body and Blood of Chriſt Jeſus; the Earneſt of a bleſſed Reſurrection, and the pledge of Immortality. Beſides innumerable good things, which thy moſt tender mercy hath been

pleaſed

pleaſed to beſtow upon our Bodies, to make our paſſage to that Bleſſedneſs, through all the troubles and dangers of this Life, the more eaſie and delightful to us. And all this thou haſt done for thoſe who have been too idle and uſeleſs, cold and dull, inconſtant, and ſoon weary of their Duty, forgetful of Benefits, and unfaithful to their own Promiſes. But thy Infinite Goodneſs ſtill continues to do it; to make us more diligent, more zealous, more ſtedfaſt and immoveable, more mindful of thee, and of our own holy Purpoſes, that we may be abundant, as there is reaſon, in the work of the Lord, knowing that our labour ſhall not be in vain in the Lord.

And that is the moſt ſincere and fervent deſire of our Souls likewiſe, who here moſt humbly beſeech thee, by the Power of thy Holy Spirit to preſerve in us a perpetual and affectionate remembrance of all thy undeſerved kindneſs to us. Stir up all

that is within us every Morning to bleſs and praiſe thy Holy Name: That by a renewed, ſerious acknowledgment of thy Benefits, we may be more and more ſtirred up to love, and to all good Works. O that the Lord Jeſus may be always in our thoughts, and in our hearts; that we may make him our Pattern, as he is our hope! O that nothing may be ſo dear unto us in this World, as his holineſs, his humility, his goodneſs and charity, his meekneſs and patience, his entire truſt in thee, and reſignation to thee, his delight to do thy Will, O God, in hope of that *eternal Life, which thou who canſt not lye haſt promiſed to us.* Fix our minds and affections more ſtedfaſtly on that Glory wherewith he is crowned, by his obedient ſuffering of Death, that we may never be weary nor faint in our minds under any ſufferings for well-doing; but continuing faithful to the Death, may alſo receive the Crown

Tit. 1. 1.

Crown of Life. And be graciouſly pleaſed, O Lord, to fulfil the devout Prayers of thy Church, which have been this day offered unto thee for all Mankind; Eſpecially for all Chriſtian people, for theſe Kingdoms, for our Sovereign and all the Royal Family, for our Spiritual Paſtors and Governours, for all ſorts and conditions of men among us. Let all thoſe Supplications for Grace, Mercy and Peace; together with all the Praiſes and Thankſgivings which have been rendred for all thy Bleſſings, be ever acceptable in thy ſight, O Lord, our ſtrength and our Redeemer.

And particularly, we beſeech thee to accept of this our bounden Duty and Service; pity our great weakneſſes; pardon all our ſins and negligences; and deny us not the Grace of thy Holy Spirit, which we have implored, to enable us to amend our lives according to thy holy Word: But after thou haſt

refreſhed us with quiet ſleep this Night, let us feel it moving our hearts to the ſame holy thoughts, acknowledgments, deſires and reſolutions which it now works in us; through thy mercy declared to us in Chriſt Jeſus. In whoſe words we conclude our Prayers, ſaying, as he hath taught us,

Our Father which art in Heaven, hallowed be thy Name: Thy Kingdom come: Thy Will be done in Earth, as it is in Heaven: Give us this Day our daily Bread: And forgive us our treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that treſpaſs againſt us: And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, &c.

PRAY-

PRAYERS FOR FAMILIES.

Monday-Morning.

WE humble our ſelves, O Lord of Heaven and Earth, before thy glorious Majeſty; we heartily acknowledge thy Sovereign Dominion over us and all Creatures; we praiſe and magnifie thy eternal Power, Wiſdom, Goodneſs and Truth; and we render thee our moſt unfeigned thanks for the innumerable Benefits which thou in thy Bounty haſt loaded us withal: Above all for the gracious Declaration thou haſt made of thy Good-will to us in Chriſt Jeſus; by whom thou haſt invited and encouraged Sinners to return to thee, and directed them in the way to Everlaſting Bliſs.

We bluſh to think of our ſhameful forgetfulneſs of thee, and ingratitude to thee; to whom we owe all that we have in this World, and all our hopes in the next. We moſt humbly implore thy tender mercies in the forgiveneſs of all our ſins, whereby we have offended either in thought, word or deed, againſt thy juſt and holy Laws. For we are truly ſorry for all our miſdoings: we utterly renounce whatſoever is contrary to thy Will, and here devote our ſelves entirely to the obedience thereof. Accept, O moſt merciful Father, of this renewed Dedication, which we make of our whole man, Body, Soul and Spirit to thee: And as thou doſt inſpire us with holy reſolutions, ſo accompany them always with the aſſiſtance of thy Grace; that we may be able every day to offer up our ſelves more ſincerely, and more cheerfully to thee; with more pure affection and hearty devotion, and ready diſpoſition to thy Service.

We

We adore thy great Grace which hath brought Salvation to us, and *teach us that denying all ungodlineſs and worldly luſts, we ſhould live ſoberly, righteouſly and godly in this preſent World.* Tit. 2. 11, 12. We will endeavour, O Lord, to preſerve a grateful ſenſe of thy mighty Love in our minds, and to follow the Doctrine and Example of thy Son Chriſt Jeſus; as becomes thoſe who have ſuch *a bleſſed hope*, and look for ſo great Salvation at the Day of his glorious Appearing. We deſire above all things to be ſo pure and undefiled, ſo meek and gentle, ſo humble and lowly, ſo juſt and merciful, ſo peaceable and patient, contented and thankful as our bleſſed Lord and Maſter was: And we hope that thou wilt fulfil all the gracious promiſes he hath made to us, which we eſteem far greater Treaſure than thouſands of Gold and Silver. They are the ſupport, the comfort, the ſatisfaction of our hearts. We aſk nothing, but

that

that it may be to thy Servants according to his word.

Thou haſt mercifully kept us the laſt Night, bleſſed be thy continued Goodneſs, and raiſed us again to ſee the light of this Morning: Receive us likewiſe all this Day into thy protection, to which we moſt humbly commit our ſelves. We truſt our ſelves and all belonging to us with thee our Creator and Redeemer. We ſubmit to thy Orders, and are willing to do and ſuffer what thou pleaſeſt;

Jude 21. *Waiting for the mercy of our Lord Chriſt Jeſus unto eternal life.*

And we deſire, thou knoweſt, the Good of all Mankind, as well as our own, eſpecially of all Chriſtian People: that they may all walk worthy of the Goſpel, and live together in unity and godly love. For which end, we pray that all Chriſtian Kings, Princes and Governours, may be wiſe, pious, juſt and merciſull; endeavouring that all their Subjects

jects may lead peaceable lives under them, in all godlineſs and honeſty. And more particularly that our Sovereign may be bleſſed with a religious, quiet, long and proſperous Reign: and that all his Miniſters of State, and Officers of Juſtice, may conſcientiouſly diſcharge the truſt that is repoſed in them; ſeeking in their ſeveral places how to right the oppreſſed, to comfort the afflicted, to provide for the poor and needy, and to relieve all thoſe that are in any miſery. Bleſs all our ſpiritual Paſtors and Inſtructors: ſucceed their labours; and give us Grace to follow their godly admonitions, *to eſteem them very highly in love for their works ſake; and to be at peace among our ſelves.* 1 Theſſ. 5. 13. The ſame Bleſſings we crave for all our Friends, Relations and Acquaintance; that we may all live in perfect love and peace together; doing our Duties to thee, to each other, and to all men ſo faithfully, that

that we may give a comfortable account of our ſelves, and rejoice together at the great Day of the Lord Jeſus. In whoſe holy words we beſeech thee to help us ſtill more heartily to offer up our deſires to thee.

Our Father, &c.

At Night.

ALmighty and moſt merciful Father; by whom we were made, and in whom we live, move, and have our Being: to whoſe tender compaſſions we owe our ſafety the day paſt, together with all the comforts of this preſent life, and the hopes of that which is to come. We praiſe and laud thee, O Lord, the Creator and Governor of the World. We aſcribe all Greatneſs, Might, Majeſty, Wiſdom, Riches and Bounty to thee; whom all the Hoſt of Heaven

ven continually admires and acknowledges with the moſt joyful reverence. We bow our ſelves likewiſe before thee, and worſhip thee, in an humble ſenſe, that we are nothing in compariſon with thee, and we have nothing but what we receive from thee. *Unto thee do we give thanks, unto thee do we give thanks, O God, our exceeding joy, who daily poureſt thy Benefits upon us.* Pſal. 75. 1. Pſal. 43. 4. 68. 19.

Bleſſed be thy great Goodneſs, for the long health, which by thy favour we have enjoyed; for our Food and our Raiment; for our Peace and our ſafety; for the ſociety of our Friends, and the love of our Neighbour; for the ſucceſs thou haſt given to our honeſt labours after the things of this Life, and to our pious endeavours to attain that Life which is immortal. We can never bleſs thee enough for that wonderful Grace, which ſent Jeſus Chriſt to reveal that eternal life to us, and to direct us in the way that leads

leads unto it; by his dwelling among us, and by his dying for us, and by his riſing again to be the Lord of Life and Glory, and to ſend his Apoſtles to preach this glad-tidings of Salvation to the World. We thank thee with all our Souls, that we feel in our hearts any motion towards thee; and that we have made the leaſt Progreſs in thoſe Paths of Life, which thy Goodneſs hath laid before us ſo plainly in thy holy Goſpel.

Behold, O Lord, we preſent our ſelves here before thee to be inſpired with ſuch a vigorous and full ſenſe of thy love, as may move us more powerfully towards thee; and put us forward with a greater earneſtneſs, zeal and diligence in all our Duty. There is nothing in Heaven or Earth that we can deſire, but to be beloved of thee; who poſſeſſeſt both, and art able to make thy Friends as great and happy as thou pleaſeſt. Aſſiſt us therefore ſtill by thy Grace, to the recovery of ſuch a lively Image of thee

thee in all righteouſneſs, purity, mercy, faithfulneſs and truth; that we may know thou loveſt us. O that Jeſus, the Hope of Glory, may be formed in us in all humility, meekneſs, patience, contentedneſs, peaceableneſs, and abſolute ſurrender of our Souls and Bodies to thy holy Will and Pleaſure: *That we may no longer live, but Chriſt may live in us, and the life we lead in the fleſh may be by the faith of thy Son, O God, who loved us, and gave himſelf for us.* Gal. 2. 20.

The remembrance of that love is moſt dear and precious to us. We cannot often enough make mention of ſo great kindneſs, as his making himſelf freely an Offering for our ſins. It moves us again to offer up our ſelves ſincerely to thee, to do thy Will, O God, as our Bleſſed Lord and Maſter did. We repoſe alſo an intire confidence in thee, and ſtill truſt our ſelves with thee, who haſt *not ſpared thine own Son, but* Rom. 8. 32.

given

given him up for us all. We will humbly and reverently accept of whatſoever thou ſen eſt us; and *in every thing give thanks, which is thy will concerning us in Chriſt Jeſus.* We hope thou wilt never leave us nor forſake us: but conduct us ſafe through all varieties and changes of our condition here, in an unchangeable love to thee, and in an holy compoſure and tranquility of mind in thy love to us, till we come to live with thee, and enjoy thee for ever.

1 Theſſ. 5. 18.

And now that we are going to lay our ſelves down to ſleep, take us into thy gracious protection; and ſettle our Spirits in ſuch quiet and delightful thoughts of the Glory where our Lord Jeſus lives, that we may be willing to leave this World, and go to him: *Who died for us, that whether we wake or ſleep we ſhould live together with him.*

1 Theſſ. 5. 10.

To his Bleſſing we commend all Mankind, of whatſoever Rank and Condition they be; high and low, rich

rich and poor: that they may all be ſo happy as to do their ſeveral Duties carefully, and to enjoy contentedly whatſoever is needful for them. And eſpecially we beſeech thee, *that the courſe of this World may be ſo peaceably ordered by thy Governance, that thy Church may joyfully ſerve thee in all Godly quietneſs.* We leave all we have with thee, eſpecially our friends, and thoſe who are dear unto us: deſiring that when we are dead and gone, they may lift up their Souls in this manner unto thee, and teach thoſe that come after to praiſe, love and obey thee: and that if we awake again in the Morning, our mouths may likewiſe praiſe thee again with joyful lips, and we may ſtill offer our ſelves a more acceptable Sacrifice to thee through Chriſt Jeſus. In whoſe words we beſeech thee to hear us, according to the fulleſt ſence and intention of them.

Our Father, &c.

PRAY-

PRAYERS FOR FAMILIES.

Tueſday-Morning.

ALL Honour, Glory and Praiſe be given to thee, O Lord, our Creator, Redeemer, and Comforter, by us, and by all the World. Thou art worthy of all our love, ſervice and obedience, being moſt excellent in thine own Nature, and of ſo abundant kindneſs to us thy Creatures. We moſt humbly therefore proſtrate our ſelves before thee this Morning, to make thee our thankful acknowledgments for all thy Benefits, and tender thee our moſt hearty and affectionate Service, and wait upon thy Bounty for the continuance of thy Grace and Mercy to

us. Though we are not worthy, we confeſs, of the leaſt regard from thee, whom we have ſo much neglected, and whoſe love and clemency we have too often abuſed: yet we hope thou wilt accept of this ſmall oblation which we make of our ſelves, our Souls and Bodies, with unfeigned devotion to thee. Pardon and forgive us, we moſt humbly beſeech thee, all our paſt offences; the remembrance of which is grievous, and bitter to us; and vouchſafe us the Grace of thy holy Spirit to enable us to do thy Will with greater care and diligence for the time to come. Let it ever accompany and aſſiſt us, according as thou ſeeſt us ſincerely deſirous and ſtudious to pleaſe thee, in all the actions of an holy life, in charity and temperance, juſtice and fidelity, mercy and charity, meekneſs and humility, patience and contentedneſs, innocency and peace; and in continual Prayers, Praiſes and Thankſgivings to thee, the Father of Mercies, in Chriſt Jeſus our Lord. We

We ſee how frail and weak our Bodies and all their enjoyments are; and therefore we the more earneſtly deſire to have our Souls enriched with thoſe immortal Treaſures of thy Divine Grace. O that we may never ceaſe moſt zealouſly to ſeek and purſue them; and that we may think our ſelves happy enough in the poſſeſſion of them; and may rejoyce in nothing ſo much, as in *having our fruit unto holineſs*, that in *the end* we may attain *eternal life*. Suffer not our Spirits to ſink too deep into the love of any the deareſt good, that we have in this World: But rather by all theſe earthly things, which thy Goodneſs affords to us for our ſupport, eaſe and delight, raiſe our minds and hearts to thoſe Cœleſtial enjoyments which will yield us eternal pleaſure and ſatisfaction. Set our affections principally on things above. Make us ſo wiſe as to provide our ſelves Friends that never die; and to be ſtill preparing our

Rom. 6. 22.

our ſelves by all Divine Qualities for their Company and Society: that ſo they may *receive us*, when we remove hence, *into* their *everlaſting habitations.* Luke 16. 9.

Thus now we commend our ſelves this Day to thy moſt gracious protection, guidance, and bleſſing: hoping that the ſame good Providence which preſerved us and our habitations the laſt night, from fire, and innumerable other dangers (for which we thank thee) will guard us this Day from all evil, and miſchief, and bring us in ſafety of Soul and Body to praiſe thee in the Evening. Help us thankfully to receive and ſoberly to uſe all thy Mercies: quietly to do our own buſineſs, and bear our ſeveral burthens; to be juſt in our dealings; innocent and harmleſs in our converſation; well-pleaſed with the proſperity of our Neighbours; deſirous of the good of all the World: eſpecially that they may all love, and honour, and join together in magnify-

ing and praiſing thee, our Lord and Governour, whoſe Name is excellent in all the Earth.

More particularly, we implore thy mercies towards theſe Kingdoms wherein we live. Remember not againſt us our high provocations. Spare us, good Lord, and have patience with us; if perhaps we may bring forth better fruit, becoming thy holy Goſpel, and all the care thou haſt taken about us. Endue our Sovereign with much Wiſdom from above, that he may always diſcern what is moſt profitable for us, and earneſtly purſue it to the utmoſt of his power. Bleſs him in his Relations; in his Counſellors; in his Judges, and all other Officers; in all the Nobility, Clergy, Gentry and Commonalty of the Realm: that every one of them may uprightly and zealouſly do their Duty; to the maintenance of thy true Religion, and the encreaſe of Piety, Honeſty and brotherly Love among us. Comfort and relieve all thoſe that

that are in any diſtreſs, trouble or anguiſh, either of body or mind. And give us tender and pitiful hearts towards them, ready to help and eaſe them according to our abilities; That we following the example of our merciful and compaſſionate High-Prieſt Chriſt Jeſus, may have now the benefit of his interceſſion for us, and at laſt be admitted into the high and holy place where he is. In whoſe bleſſed Name and Words, we conclude our Prayers.

Our Father, &c:

At Night.

WE fall down before Thee, O Lord of Heaven and Earth, and worſhip thee in the deepeſt humility of our Souls; acknowledging that we are thy Creatures, who ſtand infinitely bound unto thee, by innu-

merable bleſſings and favours which thou haſt conferred upon us, out of thy mere Bounty and Goodneſs. We owe our lives to that alone, and all the comforts of them; together with all the hopes we have hereafter, either in this World, or in the other. And bleſſed, for ever bleſſed be thy merciful kindneſs, for giving ſuch glorious hopes by the Lord Jeſus: By his Death and Reſurrection; by his Aſcenſion, and being enthroned at thy right-hand; and by the coming of the Holy Ghoſt to be a Witneſs of his Majeſty and Glory. We rejoice, O Lord, in that great ſalvation which thou haſt ſent unto us; and cannot but be ſtill praiſing thee, whoſe love hath ſo abounded towards us beyond all our thoughts and deſires. Pardon, we moſt humbly beſeech thee, out of the ſame Grace and Mercy, all our paſt Neglects of thee, our inſenſibleneſs of thy Benefits, our careleſneſs, or inconſtancy in our obedience, and particularly

cu'arly whatſoever we have done or om.tted this Day, contrary to thoſe holy purpoſes and reſolutions wherein we ſtand engaged to thee.

And vouchſafe us the aſſiſtance of thy holy Spirit to enable us to perform thoſe Vows better, which here we renew of greater gratitude, and more chearful and ſtedfaſt obedience to thy Divine Majeſty for the time to come. Awaken our minds to frequent and ſerious reflections upon thy undeſerved and moſt bountiful Mercies towards us. Touch our hearts with ſuch an ingenuous and dutiful ſenſe of them, that our Wills may be overcome to yield themſelves wholly and abſolutely to thee.

And that we may feel them conſtantly provoked to love and good works, help us ever to ſet our Lord and Maſter by whoſe name we are called, before our eyes; and to admire his unſpotted purity, his condeſcending humility, his tender-hearted charity, his meekneſs of wiſdom, his

hearty truſt in thee, and reſignation to thee, his forgiveneſs of injuries, his patience under reproaches and cruel torments, his peaceable and contented Spirit, his acknowledging thee in all things, and ever ſeeking thy Honour and Glory: that being in love with all theſe, and valuing them more than life it ſelf, we may never ceaſe our endeavours till this Image of our deareſt Lord and Maſter be formed in our hearts.

O Lord Jeſus ſavourably behold theſe holy deſires, wherewith our Souls aſpire towards thee. Preſerve and maintain them; encoutage and encreaſe them; make them reſtleſs and unwearied till they be accompliſhed in the enjoyment of this great bleſſedneſs.

Thou who haſt begun a good work in us, finiſh and compleat it, we moſt humbly and earneſtly beſeech thee. Give us thy Grace continually for our ſeaſonable relief and ſuccour, that we perſevering in well-doing, may

may have a ſolid and lively hope in our Death, of coming to ſee thee in that high and holy place where thou liveſt and reigneſt for evermore.

As for all the things of this life, we moſt heartily referr our ſelves to thy Fatherly Wiſdom and Goodneſs. O Lord God Almighty: truſting thou wilt order for us that which is moſt convenient, and bleſs our honeſt diligence with ſuch a competent portion of them, that we may have the more leiſure to give continual praiſe, honour, bleſſing and thankſgiving to thee whoſe mercies endure for ever.

Accept, we pray thee, of our thankful acknowledgments at this time, for thoſe which this day hath added to the reſt of thy Benefits, which thou haſt been continually heaping upon us ever ſince we were born. And let all the people of the earth praiſe the Name of the Lord, which is highly exalted above all bleſſing and praiſe. O that all the Kingdoms of the World would become the Kingdoms of our

Saviour Chriſt: and that all they who acknowledge his Authority, would religiouſly obey his holy Laws; that all Wars, oppreſſion and cruelty may ceaſe among Chriſtian people, and they may live together in brotherly love and unity: Make our Sovereign and all his Realms happy by a great encreaſe of true knowledge, godlineſs and vertue every where. Bleſs all our Friends; forgive our Enemies; requite all the kindneſs of our Benefactors; comfort every one of thy deſolate and afflicted Servants: and turn their mourning and heavineſs into joy and gladneſs at the laſt.

And now that we are going to repoſe our ſelves; keep us, we beſeech thee and all belonging to us, in ſafety. Refreſh our wearied Spirits with comfortable reſt and ſleep; and when we awaken again in the morning, direct our thoughts immediately to thee, our merciful Preſerver; and help us to imploy all our renewed ſtrength to thy Honour and Glory, according

cording to thy Will declared by Chriſt Jeſus: in whoſe bleſſed Name and Words we commend our ſelves to thy infinite Mercies.

Our Father which art in Heaven, hallowed be thy Name: Thy Kingdom come: Thy Will be done in Earth, as it is in Heaven: Give us this Day our daily Bread: And forgive us our treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that treſpaſs againſt us: And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, &c.

PRAYERS FOR FAMILIES.

Wedneſday-Morning.

O Moſt great and mighty Lord, the Poſſeſſour of Heaven and Earth. All the Angels worſhip and adore thy incomprehenſible Majeſty with the humbleſt reverence; and rejoice in rendring Praiſe, Bleſſing, and Thankſgiving to Thee, the Father of Spirits: For thou haſt created all things, and in Wiſdom haſt thou made them all, and ſpread thy tender Mercies over all thy Works. It is no leſs our happineſs than our Duty to join our hearts and voices with that heavenly Hoſt, moſt gratefully to acknowledge thy Bounty to us among the reſt

reſt of thy Creatures; and thy particular grace and favour in our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, our moſt merciful Saviour and Redeemer. We can never ſufficiently admire that love which gave him to die for us, and hath made him the Lord of Life and Glory; that he may be the Author of Eternal Salvation to all thoſe that obey him. All the love we have is too little to give thee, to whom all our Services are due by a former title. Our higheſt Praiſes fall infinitely ſhort of thy moſt excellent Majeſty; and we are aſhamed of the moſt affectionate thanks we can render to thee for thoſe inеſtimable Benefits which thou haſt conferred on us, and ſo long continued to us.

How much greater reaſon then have we to be abaſhed at our ſhameful ingratitude and diſobedience to thy Divine Majeſty; for which we are heartily ſorry, and do now moſt earneſtly repent our ſelves of it; unfeignedly reſolving and proteſting to

be

be more faithful to thee for the time to come. Pardon us therefore, Good Lord, and receive us unto thy mercy. Accept of our renewed Vows to ſtudy and to do our Duties conſcientiouſly, towards thee and towards all men. And as thou haſt excited thoſe holy deſires and purpoſes in our hearts, ſo enable us to perform them conſtantly in the whole courſe of our life.

Our bleſſed Saviour hath told us, thou wilt as readily give thy holy Spirit to them that ask it, as a Parent will give Bread unto his hungry Children. O Father of Mercies, let it be unto us according to his Word. Cheriſh theſe little beginnings of Goodneſs which thou ſeeſt in our Souls: and proſper all our endeavours to attain a greater meaſure of it. And ſince at the beſt we are but unprofitable Servants, and can do no more than was our Duty to do: enable us to do every thing which thou haſt commanded us, heartily, with good-will, and true love to thy Service.

We

We know this is all that can, in the leaſt, commend us to thy free grace and favour; and therefore we moſt humbly again devote our ſelves to do thy Will, with a cordial affection to it. We would ever approach unto thee with delight and pleaſure: and feel it the joy our hearts to think of thee, to praiſe thee, to give thee thanks and to offer our ſelves with abſolute reſignation to thee. O that Mercy may always pleaſe us as it pleaſeth Thee! that we may be ſtrictly juſt and righteous; may cheerfully paſs by injuries; freely deny all deſires of ſinful pleaſures; willingly ſubmit to thy fatherly corrections; and perform the Duties of our ſeveral Relations, with ſingleneſs of heart. Render us ſo mindful of the great love of our Lord and Maſter Chriſt, that we may be zealouſly concerned for his Glory, and uſe our utmoſt diligence to do him and his Religion ſome honour in the World: Delighting to Commemorate his

Death

Death and Paſſion, making a joyful Sacrifice of our Souls and Bodies to him, and deſiring moſt earneſtly that his *Kingdom may come*, and all Mankind ſubmit themſelves to his Government.

Fulfil, moſt merciful Lord, all our Petitions; and as thou haſt mightily protected us, and our dwellings, this laſt Night from fire and thieves, and whatſoever might diſturb our repoſe (bleſſed be thy Goodneſs) ſo accompany us all this Day with thy Bleſſing: that we may pleaſe th e in Body and Soul, and be ſafe under thy defence; who art nigh to all thoſe that call upon thee, that call upon thee in truth.

And O that all thoſe who are forgetful of their Duty to thee, may be awakened to a lively ſenſe of all thy Benefits, and fill the whole World with thy praiſes. Stir up eſpecially the minds of all Chriſtian people, to enquire after and follow the Truth, as it is in Jeſus: abandoning all Vice

and

and wickedneſs and exerciſing themſelves to have conſciences void of offence towards thee, and towards all men. And diſpoſe the hearts of all their Kings and Princes, to make themſelves the greateſt examples of Chriſtian Piety to all others. Bleſs theſe Kingdoms, and endue our Sovereign with ſuch excellent Wiſdom and holy Zeal for thine honour and glory; that we may ſee many good days under his Government. O that true Religion, Juſtice, Mercy, Brotherly kindneſs, and all things elſe that are praiſeworthy may ſo flouriſh among us; that we may enjoy the Bleſſings of Peace and Plenty, and there may be no complaining in our Streets.

We recommend to thee all our Friends and Neighbours; all the poor, the ſick, and other afflicted perſons; deſiring thoſe mercies for them which we ſhould ask for our ſelves, were we in their condition: *O God, whoſe never-failing Providence ordereth all things both in heaven and earth; put away*

away from them and us, we humbly beſeech thee, all hurtful things, and give us thoſe things which be profitable for us, according to the large Declarations which thou haſt made of thy abundant Goodneſs to Mankind in our Lord Jeſus. In whoſe words we conclude our humble ſupplications unto thee; ſaying,

Our Father, &c.

At Night.

ALmighty and everlaſting God; the Sovereign Lord of all Creatures in Heaven and Earth, and our moſt merciful and gracious Father in thy Son Chriſt Jeſus. We moſt heartily acknowledge that our Beings and all the comforts of them depend on thee, the Fountain of all Good. We have nothing but what we have received thence: and is owning intirely

tirely to thy free and bounteous love. O moſt bleſſed Creator; and to the unſearchable Riches of thy Grace, O moſt bleſſed Redeemer.

To thee therefore be given by us and all Creatures, whom thou haſt made to know how great and how good thou art, all Honour, Glory, and Praiſe; all Love, Service, and Obedience, as long as we have any Being. *It is but meet, right, and our bounden Duty, that we ſhould at all times, and in all places give thanks unto thee, O Lord*: and devoutly reſign both Soul and Body to thee, to be abſolutely governed and ruled according to thy holy will and pleaſure. We are heartily ſorry that we have not done it from the very Beginning of our lives till this time. We are aſhamed to think of our injuſtice and ingratitude, in following our own deſires ſo long, and rendring our ſelves, no ſooner, moſt humbly obedient in all things to thee. Our hopes are only in thoſe infinite mercies, which

which have ſpared us notwithſtanding, and opened our eyes to ſee our errors, and touched our hearts with ſome ſenſe of our Duty.

And we hope in them not only for a Pardon, which we earneſtly implore according to thy gracious Promiſes made in Chriſt Jeſus, but for the Power of thy Holy Spirit, to further and promote thoſe godly reſolutions, which we feel already in our hearts, to live as becomes thy Creatures; and as becomes the Diſciples of Jeſus Chriſt, who were early dedicated to thee, and have often ſince vowed themſelves to thy ſervice. As thou haſt made us to underſtand the reaſonableneſs and goodneſs of all thy Laws, ſo incline our Wills to be more and more in love with them; till they be writ upon our hearts. Stir up our Wills to *love them exceedingly*, and to cleave unto them as our very life. Let thy Grace continually prevent and follow us to keep alive ſuch a powerful ſenſe of thee, and of the

the love of our Lord and Saviour in our mind; that we may naturally fear and reverence thee, and ſtudy to be approved of thee, and beloved by thee, and account it our higheſt perfection and happineſs to be like thee.

O that it may ever be the joy of our hearts to be Righteous, as thou art Righteous; to be Merciful, as thou our Heavenly Father art Merciful; to be Holy as thou who haſt called us art Holy, in all manner of converſation; to be endued with thy Divine Wiſdom, and to reſemble thee in Faithfulneſs and Truth: O that the memory of our bleſſed Saviour, and his admirable example may be always dear unto us: that we may chearfully follow him in his Humility, Meekneſs, Patience, Contentedneſs, Peaceableneſs, and Delight to do thy Will, O God, in every thing as he did. Accept, we moſt humbly beſeech thee, of theſe deſires of our Souls after thee: And graciouſly aſſiſt and ſtrengthen them, according as we unfeignedly offer them up unto thee. Ac-

Accept likewiſe of our thanks for thy merciful preſervation of us all this day: by which we are come in ſafety to the concluſion of it, and are here before thee with a new load of thy benefits upon us, added to other innumerable Bleſſings which thou haſt formerly beſtowed. We are bold again likewiſe to commit our ſelves unto thee this night; and to truſt in thy merciful protection and care over us, when we can take no care of our ſelves, or any thing elſe belonging to us. Defend us from all the powers of Darkneſs, from all evil Men, from Fire and all ſuch ſad accidents: And raiſe up our Spirits, together with our Bodies in the morning, to ſuch a vigorous ſenſe of thy continued Goodneſs, as may provoke us all the day long to an unwearied diligence in well-doing.

And the ſame mercies that we beg for our ſelves, we deſire for the reſt of Mankind; eſpecially for all thoſe who are called by the name of Chriſt.

O that

O that every Member of that Body, of which he is the Head, may do their Duties with all fidelity, according to the ſeveral Offices to which thou haſt aſſigned them. That Kings may be tender-hearted, as the fathers of their Countries; and all their Subjects may be dutiful and obedient to them as their Children: That the Paſtors of the Church may feed their Flock with true Wiſdom and Underſtanding; and the People all may ſubmit unto them, and follow their godly Counſels; that the rich and mighty may have compaſſion on the poor and miſerable; and all ſuch diſtreſſed People may bleſs the rich, and rejoice in the proſperity of thoſe that are above them. Give Husbands and Wives, Parents and Children, Maſters and Servants the Grace to behave themſelves ſo in their ſeveral Relations, that they may adorn the Doctrine of God our Saviour in all things; and being an honour to his Religion here, may receive immortal honour

honour and glory hereafter from the hands of Chriſt Jeſus; in whoſe holy Name and Words we continue to beſeech thy Grace and Mercy towards us, and all thy People every where; ſaying,

Our Father which art in Heaven, hallowed be thy Name: Thy Kingdom come: Thy Will be done in Earth, as it is in Heaven: Give us this Day our daily Bread: And forgive us our treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that treſpaſs againſt us: And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, &c.

PRAY-

PRAYERS FOR FAMILIES.

Thurſday-*Morning.*

O Lord, the high and holy One, whoſe *Glory is above the earth and heaven.* We thy Creatures proſtrate our ſelves in the humbleſt adorations of Thee: aſcribing to Thee all Power, Wiſdom, Riches, Might, Majeſty and Dominion; and acknowledging that to Thee of right belongs all Worſhip, Bleſſing, Thankſgiving and Praiſe; together with all Honour, Love, Service and Obedience for evermore. Bleſſed be thine Omnipotent Goodneſs which hath advanced us to ſuch a degree of being, that we are capable to look back to thee from whom we

Pſal. 148. 13.

we come; to know thee, to love thee, to acknowledge thy great bounty towards us, and to reſemble thee in Wiſdom and Goodneſs. All that is within us bleſſeth thy Holy Name for breathing into us immortal Spirits, that we may eternally admire thee, praiſe thee, love thee, and joyfully render thoſe grateful acknowledgements which we owe unto thee. We can never ſufficiently magnifie thy mercies towards us; eſpecially thoſe in the Lord Jeſus, in whom thy Grace hath ſo exceedingly abounded, as to ſurpaſs not only our deſerts, but the largeſt of our deſires.

Bleſſed, bleſſed, for ever bleſſed, be thy Fatherly Goodneſs, who haſt ſent him from Heaven ſo unexpectedly to viſit us vile Wretches, who dwell in Houſes of Clay, whoſe Foundation is in the Duſt. Lord! what is man, that thou art mindful of him? or the Son of man, that thou didſt thus viſit him? We thank thee according to our poor ability, from the very bottom

tom of our hearts for his manifeſtation in our Fleſh; for the charitable teſtimonies he gave of his love to Mankind in the courſe of his life; for that aſtoniſhing Grace in ſubmitting himſelf to die for us; for his glorious Reſurrection and Aſcenſion to Heaven; for the Sovereign Power and Authority which thou haſt given him at thy Right-hand; for his compaſſionate interceſſion for us; and the aſſurances we have received of his being the King of Glory, and of his continued kindneſs to us, by the coming of the Holy Ghoſt: We will never ceaſe to bleſs thee for that great Salvation, *which was firſt preached by the Lord, and was confirmed by them that heard him; and for the witneſs which thou bareſt to them, both with ſigns and wonders, and with divers miracles and gifts of the Holy Ghoſt, according to thy own Will.* Heb. 2. 3, 4.

We rejoice in the light of thy holy Goſpel; that we ſee the way to be

happy both by the Doctrine and Example of thy Son Jeſus; that we have the encouragement of his precious promiſes; and ſuch good hope of remiſſion of ſin, and eternal life in the day when he ſhall judge the World in righteouſneſs. O how much are we bound unto thee, for that comfortable hope which thou haſt given us, of ſeeing our dear Saviour in all his Glory, and being there were he is, and reigning with him for ever! We again render thee our moſt hearty thanks, for that everlaſting conſolation and good hope through Grace, which thou haſt given us: and for all thoſe benefits likewiſe, which thou art pleaſed to beſtow upon us, to make our ſtay here on Earth the more convenient and delightful to us. We are every way obliged to thee, beyond all that we are able to expreſs or conceive. Thou feedeſt us and cloatheſt us; thou preſerveſt our health, and our ſtrength; thou haſt delivered us from innumerable dangers; and when

when thou haſt chaſtiſed us, it hath been in great mercy and clemency, and not according to our deſerving.

O that all the World would ſhew forth thy praiſe, and devote themſelves to the ſervice of our Lord. Let all Kings of the Earth ſubmit themſelves unto him, and glory in the Name of his obedient Subjects. High and low, rich and poor, let them praiſe the Name of the Lord, from this time forth and for evermore. For *great is the Lord, and greatly to be praiſed*; eſpecially *in the aſſembly of the Saints*, and by thy Church and Houſehold; which we beſeech thee to keep, and to continue in thy true Religion. *As thou ſheweſt to them that be in error the light of thy truth, to the intent that they may return into the way of righteouſneſs; ſo grant unto all them that are admitted into the Fellowſhip of Chriſt's Religion, that they may eſchew thoſe things that are contrary to their Profeſſion, and follow all ſuch things as are agreeable to the ſame.*

Accept, moſt gracious God, of theſe unfeigned deſires of us thy Servants; who for our parts, intirely dedicated our ſelves, both Souls and Bodies, unto thee, reſolving in all things to walk worthy of thee, who haſt called us to thy Kingdom and Glory, and bleſſed us alſo with many other good things which make this life to be a more eaſie Paſſage to a better. We will never forget how much we are indebted to thee: but ſtudy to expreſs our grateful remembrance of thy mercies, by living *ſoberly, righteouſly and godly in this preſent World*; *looking for that bleſſed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God, and our Saviour Jeſus Chriſt.* Favour, we pray thee, theſe holy purpoſes with the conſtant aſſiſtance of thy good Spirit; that we may be able to accompliſh that we have begun, and to perfect holineſs in thy fear. Help us to *add to our faith, vertue; and to vertue, knowledge; and*

Tit. 2. 12, 13.

2 Pet. 1. 5, to 8.

and to knowledge, temperance; and to temperance, patience; and to patience, godlineſs; and to godlineſs, brotherly-kindneſs; and to brotherly kindneſs, charity. That theſe things being in us and abounding, they may make us to be neither barren, nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt.

Preſerve us this day eſpecially; that we ſwerve not preſently from theſe pious reſolutions; But may give ſuch a proof of their ſincerity, by our being ſtedfaſt and immoveable in all well-doing, notwithſtanding any temptation to the contrary; that we may have the better hope we ſhall perſevere to the very end, through thy continued Grace in Chriſt Jeſus; in whoſe words we deſire all that thou ſeeſt needful either for our Souls or Bodies, for our ſelves or others, ſaying,

Our Father, &c.

At Night.

WE are here again proſtrate before thee, O Lord of Heaven and Earth, to join our ſelves with all that holy Company, *who reſt not day and night, ſaying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come. Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory, honour, and power: for thou haſt created all things, and for thy pleaſure they are and were created.* Rev. 4. 8. 11. Bleſſed be thy divine goodneſs, which hath made the Children of Men but little lower than the Angels; and crowned us with ſuch glory and honour, that we are capable to accompany that heavenly Hoſt in giving continual thanks and praiſe unto thee. Praiſed be thy Name that we are now alive; and that we have the uſe of our reaſon and underſtanding; and enjoy ſo many of the comforts and conveniences of this preſent life; and have

have attained a good hope through Chriſt Jeſus of being immortally happy.

O how great was thy love which ſent him into the World to direct us in the way to that happineſs by his holy Doctrine and Life; and to be a propitiation for our ſins by his death, and to *be the firſt that ſhould riſe from the dead, and ſhould ſhew light unto the World.* Acts 26. 23. We rejoice in that light of life; We moſt chearfully devote our ſelves to be the faithful Diſciples of him, the Prince of Peace, the Lord of Life and Glory. It is our happineſs as well as our duty to be governed by him, and obey his commands. We are ſenſible that they are all equal, juſt and good; and that thou haſt done us an infinite kindneſs, in teaching us to deny ungodlineſs and worldly luſts, and to live ſoberly, righteouſly, and godly in this preſent World.

And therefore we here again moſt heartily ſurrender our Wills to thine:

deſiring that we may unchangeably cleave unto it, with the greateſt and moſt intire love and affection to all its Commands. O that there may abide for ever in us ſuch a ſtrong and powerful ſence of thy mighty love towards us in Chriſt Jeſus, as may conſtrain us freely and willingly to pleaſe thee in the conſtant Exerciſe of Piety and Devotion; Righteouſneſs and Mercy; Temperance and Chaſtity; Meekneſs and Patience; Truth and Fidelity; together with ſuch an humble, contented, and peaceable Spirit, as may adorn the Religion of our Lord and Maſter. O God, that theſe holy deſires and inclinations may never die, nor languiſh in our hearts: but be kept alive in their vigour and force, by the perpetual inſpirations of the Holy Ghoſt.

We wait upon thee for that Promiſe of our Saviour, to aſſiſt and promote our ſincere endeavours, to preſerve our Souls unblameable in the love of thee our God, and of all

all Mankind. We heartily deſire the proſperity and welfare of every one of them, as well as our own. O that they were all ſo wiſe and happy as to acknowledge and ſubmit themſelves to thee, by obeying thy holy Laws. Eſpecially we deſire that all Kings and Princes may become our Saviour's Subjects; and conforming themſelves to his Will, may be rendred thereby moſt excellent Examples to all other Men. Endue our Sovereign with abundance of the Spirit of Counſel and Judgment, and the fear of our Lord. Make him happy in wiſe and faithful Miniſters; in loyal and peaceable Subjects; and in the good ſucceſs of all his Enterprizes for the honour of Religion, and his Peoples tranquility. We commend to thy mercies all our Friends, Relations, and Benefactors: deſiring that all who have done us good, may be requited an hundred fold here, and obtain at laſt eternal life. And all that have done evil to us, as we heartily forgive

them, ſo we earneſtly deſire they may obtain thy gracious pardon. Together with theſe we remember likewiſe all that are in affliction, whatſoever it be either of Soul or Body; to whom we wiſh eaſe and comfort, and ſeaſonable relief; that they may rejoice in the end, for the days wherein they have ſeen adverſity.

In theſe holy thoughts and deſires we now are bold to commend our ſelves to thy protection this Night; who haſt preſerved and bleſſed us (we moſt thankfully acknowledge) all the day paſt. We repoſe our ſelves in the belief of thy good Providence; with which we intruſt our ſelves, and all belonging to us. We would lay down our ſelves to ſleep, with hearts full of love to thee, and humble faith and hope in thee: deſiring we may awake again in the ſame manner, and find that we are ſtill with Thee. Diſpoſe us, good Lord, by the reſt thou giveſt us, all ways to ſerve thee more zealouſly

with

with our renewed Spirits: that after the few days and nights we have to paſs in this World, we may come to thy eternal reſt together with Chriſt Jeſus. In whoſe bleſſed Name and Words, we ſtill recommend our ſelves to thy ſervice.

Our Father which art in Heaven, hallowed be thy Name: Thy Kingdom come: Thy will be done in Earth, as it is in Heaven: Give us this Day our daily Bread: And forgive us our treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that treſpaſs againſt us: And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, &c.

PRAYERS FOR FAMILIES.

Friday Morning.

O God, moſt Bleſſed for ever: whoſe the World is, and the fulneſs thereof; who need'ſt not any thing that we can give thee, for thou giveſt us whatſoever we enjoy. We proſtrate our ſelves before thee to make ſuch poor expreſſions as we are able of the ſenſe we have of thine infinite bounty to us. It is but fit and meet that we ſhould acknowledge and praiſe thee, though we can thereby add nothing unto thee. It is our happineſs to have a grateful remembrance of thy Goodneſs to us: and to be knit unto thee in hearty love, and dutiful affection all the days of our life.

We

We thank thee therefore, O Lord of Heaven and Earth, who haſt loaded us continually with thy Benefits. They are great and many, more than we can number; both towards our Bodies, and towards our Souls; for the comfort of this life, and our everlaſting Salvation in the life to come. For ever adored be thy love in Chriſt Jeſus, who haſt given us an undoubted teſtimony of thy fatherly care and providence over us: and encouraged us, though we have offended thee, to addreſs our ſelves to thee, with good hope of thy gracious acceptance of us into friendſhip with thee again.

We love thee, O Lord, above all things. We freely offer our Spirits, Souls and Bodies to Thee, with moſt ſincere devotion, and the heartieſt affection to thy Service. There is no thing we deſire and long for ſo much, as to have a lively ſenſe of thy marvellous love always poſſeſſing our Hearts: that may ſtill conſtrain us to

love

love thee, to obey thee, to truſt in thee, to be content with the portion thy love allots unto us, and to rejoice even in the midſt of all the troubles of this life.

We cannot chuſe, O Lord, when we ſeriouſly think of what thou haſt done for us; but abſolutely commit our ſelves to thee, and intirely confide in thee for the time to come. Since thou haſt *not ſpared thy own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how ſhalt thou not with him alſo freely give us all things?* Rom. 8. 32. We depend upon thee eſpecially for the Grace of thy Holy Spirit; for the power of which in our hearts exciting theſe holy deſires and godly reſolutions, we moſt humbly thank thy Divine Majeſty. O that we may feel it perpetually bearing us up by the ſtrength of our moſt holy faith, and by the power of love and hope, above all the temptations which at any time aſſault us. That we may keep our ſelves unſpotted from the World;

World; and no appetite of pleaſure, of Glory, or of Riches may ever carry us from our Duty: but we may ſtill cleave to thee in Righteouſneſs, Purity, Humility, Charity, and all other Divine Vertues, of which our Lord hath given us ſo great an Example.

For his ſake we hope for a favourable acceptance of theſe our praiſes, acknowledgments and prayers. For we muſt be ſtill beholden to thine Infinite Goodneſs, for the leaſt regard to any thing that we can do, who are but unprofitable Servants. And we wait upon the ſame Goodneſs for thy Bleſſing to accompany us all this day; that we may do nothing, but what we know is pleaſing to thee, and may be ſo proſpered, protected and aſſiſted by thine Almighty Power, that we may return with our hearts full of love and thankfulneſs to Thee in the Evening, again to praiſe and magnifie thy continued kindneſs to us.

Unto which we commend moſt heartily

heartily the reſt of Mankind: deſiring that they may all know thee, the true God, and Jeſus Chriſt whom thou haſt ſent; whom to know is eternal life. And O that all Chriſtians would walk worthy of thy high and heavenly Calling: that others ſeeing their good Works, may be invited thereby to acknowledge and glorifie thee our heavenly Father. More particularly we deſire ſuch an encreaſe of Wiſdom and Goodneſs, to all Chriſtian Kings and Princes, that all their Subjects may praiſe thee for the ſenſible Fruits of their care and good Government, and ſuch a plentiful Portion of the Spirit of thy Grace to all Chriſtian Biſhops, Prieſts and Deacons; that they may be eminent Inſtruments of thy Honour, and their People's good by the Authority of their Doctrine and their godly Example. Make our Sovereign and us all happy in each other; by the faithful diſcharge of our ſeveral Duties, in the places wherein thy moſt high Wiſdom hath ſet us.

And

And we deſire the comfort of thoſe that mourn, the eaſe of thoſe that are in pain, the health of the ſick, the releaſe of poor Priſoners and Captives, the quiet and ſatisfaction of thoſe that are in trouble and anguiſh of mind, and the true content of all men in whatſoever condition they are: that we may be all continually giving thanks to thee, the Father of mercies, for *the joy thou haſt ſet before us*, and the hope we have, by running our Chriſtian Race with patience to come to that bleſſed place into which *Jeſus our forerunner is already entred for us*. By whom we continue to deſire, in his own words, that thou mayeſt be glorified every where in our well-doing; ſaying, as he hath taught us,

Our Father, &c.

At Night.

O LORD, the Almighty Creator and Governour of the World. *How great and manifold are thy works? in wiſdom haſt thou made them all.* Pſal. 104. 24. *The day is thine, the night alſo is thine: thou haſt prepared the light and the Sun.* Pſal. 74. 16. We thy Creatures, a ſmall part of Mankind, proſtrate our ſelves before thee this Evening, in the humbleſt adoration of thy Divine Majeſty: praiſing thy incomprehenſible Perfections, and rendring Thee our Thanks for all the Benefits thou haſt beſtowed on the whole World, eſpecially on us whom thou haſt called to the knowledge of thy Grace in Chriſt Jeſus. It is a marvellous love wherewith thou haſt loved us. Thou haſt not dealt ſo with all People; and as for thy great and precious promiſes they have not known them.

We

We are bound therefore more particularly to offer up unto thee continually ſpiritual Sacrifices by Chriſt Jeſus, and to laud and bleſs thy great and glorious Name in the behalf of our ſelves, and the reſt of Mankind: among whom thou haſt left innumerable teſtimonies of thy careful Providence, in that *thou doſt them good, and giveſt them Rain from Heaven, and fruitful Seaſons, filling their hearts with food and gladneſs.* Acts 14. 17. We praiſe thee, we bleſs thee, we magnifie and extol thy wiſe and powerful Goodneſs, we thank thee for thy never-ceaſing Bounty towards us; eſpecially that thou haſt vouchſafed to ſend Jeſus Chriſt to reſtore us by his appearing among us, and his humbling himſelf to the Death for us, and his glorious Reſurrection from the Grave, and Aſcenſion on high, to a bleſſed hope of thy mercy unto Eternal Life.

We can do no leſs than devote our ſelves, Souls and Bodies, eternally to thee:

thee: returning what we have received from thee, back again with the greateſt love, and moſt grateful acknowledgments. Accept we pray thee, O moſt gracious and merciful Father of this ſmall Oblation we make thee, of our moſt hearty and unfeigned reſolutions to worſhip and ſerve thee in the conſtant exerciſe of Righteouſneſs, Mercy, Meekneſs, Patience, Humility, and Purity, with whatſoever is lovely and of good report. And we humbly beg thy holy Spirit may conſtantly accompany us; enabling us to think of theſe things, to cleave unto them, to delight in them, and to perſevere in a free and willing performance of all our Duty towards Thee, and towards all Men, to our lives end.

And we moſt heartily deſire the reſt of Mankind may at laſt be ſo happy as to come acquainted with the exceeding riches of thy Grace in Chriſt. O that *thy ways may be known upon earth,* Pſal. 67. 2. *and*

and thy ſaving health among all Nations: that Rom. 15,10,6.
all the Gentiles may rejoice with thy People, and we may with one mind and one mouth glorifie thee our God, even the Father of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt. O that all Idolatry and ungodlineſs, all cruelty and filthineſs, all rapine and violence, may be aboliſhed and rooted out of the Earth; and true Piety, Righteouſneſs, Holineſs, and brotherly Kindneſs may flouriſh in the room thereof. For which end we beſeech thee endue all Kings and Princes, eſpecially thoſe that are Chriſtian, with a great ſenſe of thy Sovereign Authority over all; that they may humbly obey thee, as they deſire others ſhould obey them: and govern all their People with great Wiſdom, Uprightneſs, and a tender compaſſionate Care of their Welfare. O that no Covetouſneſs, Ambition, or Revenge may rule in any Hearts, provoking them to War and Blood-ſhed; but there may be great

great peace in all Lands by obſerving the holy Laws of the Prince of Peace, Chriſt Jeſus.

More particularly we recommend unto thy Bleſſing, theſe Kingdoms wherein we live: beſeeching thee to be merciful to our ſins, in giving us Grace to repent of them, and to bring forth fruits meet for repentance and amendment of life. Bleſs our Sovereign, and all that are employed under him, either in Spiritual or Civil Affairs, with all thoſe Graces which are neceſſary for the right diſcharge of their Duties in ſuch high places. Proſper all their pious endeavours for the good either of Men's Souls or outward Eſtates; that true Religion and Vertue encreaſing, and all Ungodlineſs and Vice being put to ſhame, we may become a renowned Nation, and a praiſe in the Earth. We commend to thee alſo, O Father of Mercies, all thoſe who are in a diſtreſſed and ſorrowful condition: moſt earneſtly deſiring their ſeaſon-

ſeaſonable relief and comfort; with their releaſe from thoſe troubles, when thou pleaſeſt.

And now that we are going to lay down our ſelves to ſleep, we put our ſelves and our habitations, with all that belong unto us, into thy moſt gracious protection: hopeing thou wilt take care of us, when we cannot ſo much as think how to ſecure our ſelves from any danger that may approach us. Thou haſt been our Helper, Keeper and Defender, therefore under the Shadow of thy Wings will we ſtill rejoice.

When we cloſe our eyes, let theſe holy thoughts of thee, and affections towards thee, ſtill remain in us, and poſſeſs our hearts; that they may awake again with us in the Morning, and ſend up our Souls in renewed love, and thanks, and praiſe to thy Divine Majeſty by our Bleſſed Saviour and Redeemer Chriſt Jeſus. In whoſe words we con-

continue to implore thy mercies towards us.

Our Father which art in Heaven, hallowed be thy Name: Thy Kingdom come: Thy Will be done in Earth, as it is in Heaven: Give us this Day our daily Bread: And forgive us our treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that treſpaſs againſt us: And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, &c.

PRAY-

PRAYERS FOR FAMILIES.

Saturday-Morning.

O Lord; all thy Works praiſe thee, and declare the greatneſs of thy Majeſty, Power, Wiſdom and Bounty which ſurpaſs all underſtanding. *Thou art good unto all, and thy tender mercies are over all thy works. Thou art holy in all thy ways, and righteous in all thy doings: and keepeſt truth for ever. Thy Kingdom is an everlaſting Kingdom, and thy dominion endureth throughout all Generations. We all decay and periſh; the Heavens themſelves wax old like a garment: but thou art the ſame, and thy years ſhall have no end.*

We adore thee, O Lord moſt high,

and moſt willingly joyn our hearts and voices this Morning, together with all the Hoſt of Heaven and Earth, to laud and praiſe thy glorious Name; and give thanks unto thee, whoſe mercy endureth for ever. We think our ſelves happy that we know thee; and that we live under the care and providence of thine Almighty and moſt wiſe Goodneſs; and that we have a good hope, not only of thy bleſſing and favour here, but of life for evermore.

Bleſſed be thy Name for ſending thy Son Jeſus to give us theſe hopes, by his Death, and Reſurrection, and Aſcenſion to Heaven, and the coming of the Holy Ghoſt. Bleſſed be thy Name who haſt trained us up in his Religion, and given us the means and opportunities to know that love of thine which paſſes knowledge. We thank thee for all the bleſſed operations and motions of thy holy Spirit in our hearts: and that thou haſt ſo early enclined us to fear thee, and love

thee

thee, and place our contentment and ſatisfaction in thy love and favour, which is better than life it ſelf. And that thou haſt alſo added a number of other mercies, for our comfortable ſubſiſtence in this World: having granted us ſo long health, peace and plenty; a great many Friends, loving Relations and Acquaintance; and continued the enjoyment of them to this day, though we be ſo unworthy of the leaſt of thy favours. We thank thee O God, that now thou haſt graciouſly renewed thy kindneſs unto us, in protecting us the laſt Night from all the powers of Darkneſs, and every evil accident, and raiſing us up this morning in health and ſafety to praiſe thy Goodneſs.

More eſpecially we praiſe thee for any ſenſe we have of theſe thy mercies: humbly waiting on thee for the encreaſe of it, and for thy gracious pardon of all our unthankfulneſs and undutiful behaviour towards thee; which we moſt heartily bewail, and

deſire, and will endeavour to amend.

And for that end we implore the help of thy holy Spirit, which our Lord hath encouraged us to ask of thee; and told us thou wilt not deny to thoſe that earneſtly ſeek it, and continue to knock importunately at the Gate of mercy for it. We believe all his Promiſes to be faithful and true; and therefore humbly depend on thy mighty Power to ſtrengthen and enable us to do our duty towards thee, and towards all men; with care and diligence, and zeal, and perſeverance to the end. Endue us, good Lord, with a Spirit of true and fervent Devotion to thee our Creator and Redeemer: with upright, juſt, and charitable Hearts to all our Neighbours: and with temperate, contented and humble minds, in every condition and ſtate of life, unto which thou ſhalt pleaſe to call us.

Help us to be meek and gentle in our converſation; prudent and diſcreet in ordering all our affairs; good and

and uſeful in every relation; obſervant of thy fatherly Providence in every thing that befals us; grateful for thy Benefits; patient under thy chaſtiſements; and readily diſpoſed to every good word and work. Preſerve in us a conſtant remembrance of thine all ſeeing eye; of the many Promiſes and Vows we have made of fidelity to thee; of thine ineſtimable love in Chriſt Jeſus, whereof thou haſt given us ſo many pledges; and of the great account we muſt give to him, the Judge of all, at the day of his appearing: That ſo we may continue *ſtedfaſt and unmoveable, and be abundant in the work of the Lord; knowing that our labour ſhall not be in vain in the Lord.*

Deliver us, we beſeech thee, from all inordinate cares and deſires; from vain hopes and cauſeleſs fears: and ſo diſpoſe our hearts, that death it ſelf may not be dreadful to us: but we may welcome it with a chearful countenance, when and howſoever it ſhall approach.

O that our hearts may be ſo firmly ſettled and eſtabliſhed in the true Religion, and our minds kept ſo free from all deluſions; that nothing may affright us, or ſhake our conſtancy: But we may rather chuſe to die, than diſhonour our Saviour who died for us. We reſign our ſelves to thy Wiſdom and Goodneſs, who knoweſt what is beſt for us: hoping thou wilt

1 Cor. 10. 13. *never ſuffer us to be tempted above what we are able, and wilt with the temptation alſo make a way to eſcape, that we may be able to bear it.*

We commend unto thee, likewiſe, all Mankind, eſpecially thy Church and choſen People: theſe Kingdoms more particularly, of which we are Members; that we may be all faithful to our Lord Chriſt, and zealous of good Works. Bleſs our Sovereign his Councellors, his Miniſters, and all employed in publick Buſineſs, whether Spritual or Civil; that they may be conſcientiouſly induſtrious, and what-

whatſoever they do may proſper for the good of all thoſe who are committed to their Charge: Be gracious to all our Friends, and thoſe who are dear unto us. Keep us all in thy fear, and love, and obedience, while we live; and make us willing to die, and to be with Chriſt, which is beſt of all. Guide us, Good Lord, and govern us by the ſame Spirit of Wiſdom and Goodneſs, that we may be ſo united to thee here, as not to be eternally ſeparated, when thou art pleaſed to order our departure hence: But that we all at laſt may have an happy meeting in the other and better World; to dwell with thee in love and joy, that ſhall never die, through Chriſt Jeſus our Bleſſed Lord and Saviour, in whoſe words we ſtill beſeech thee to hear us.

Our Father, &c.

At Night.

ALL honour and glory, thanks and praiſe, love and ſervice be rendred by us and all other reaſonable Creatures to thy great and glorious Majeſty, O Lord; who haſt brought us into the World; and preſerved our life moſt tenderly to this moment; and made it eaſie and comfortable to us by more mercies than we can number. And to all the former haſt added thoſe of this Day, which we have paſſed in peace, and health, and ſafety; bleſſed be thy never-ceaſing Goodneſs. Above all we acknowledge thy unconceivable love in Chriſt Jeſus, by whom thou haſt made a gracious proviſion for our Souls and their everlaſting happineſs in the other World: Having ſent him to us with the Promiſes of eternal life; and to be the way and director to it; and given him to die, that he might ſeal his promiſes with his blood; and raiſed

raiſed him again from the dead, that our faith and hope might be in thee, O God.

Eye hath not ſeen, nor ear heard, neither did enter into the heart of Man the things which thou haſt prepared for them that love thee. 1 Cor. 1. 9. We love thee, O Lord, and give our ſelves, both Souls and Bodies to thee: moſt earneſtly deſiring to be inſpired with ſuch a ſenſe of thy infinite Goodneſs, that we may love thee more, and ſerve thee better; with all our heart, and with all our ſoul, and with all our ſtrength.

We confeſs, we have not walked worthy of the great Benefits we have received; and therefore may juſtly fear thou ſhould'ſt with-hold thy tender mercies, and ſhut up thy loving kindneſs in diſpleaſure. But the deſires and holy reſolutions thou haſt wrought and continueſt in our Souls, to amend and become ſtill more fruitful in all good works, encourage us to hope in thee for Pardon thro' the

blood of Jeſus Chriſt; and for the aſſiſtance of thy holy Spirit, to enable us to accompliſh that which we intend and purpoſe, to grow more and more in Wiſdom and Knowledge; and in Righteouſneſs and true Holineſs.

O that this Image of thine may appear every day fairer and more beautiful before thee, and in the ſight of all Men! That ſo we may adorn the Religion we profeſs; and be a good Example unto others; and have a ſolid foundation of peace and comfort in our own hearts; and be able to hope in thee for thy future mercy in Chriſt Jeſus, even unto eternal life.

We commend our ſelves to thy wonted Grace; and in a ſenſe of what thou haſt done already for us, and what thou haſt promiſed to do, depend on thy Goodneſs for what thou ſeeſt profitable and conducing to our chiefeſt good: referring our ſelves wholly to thy wiſe will and pleaſure; and reſolve contentedly to ſubmit

to

to thy appointments, thankfully to receive thy mercies, and to reſt ſatisfied with our portion, whatſoever it be that thou ordereſt for us. Make us but ſtedfaſt in thy faith and love, unwearied in well-doing, patient and conſtant under all ſufferings, full of a lively hope in thy mercy, and willing to die when, and as thou pleaſeſt; and we have enough.

In confidence that thou heareſt us, and art every where, and never ſlumbereſt nor ſleepeſt; we commit our ſelves to the cuſtody of thy watchful Providence this Night: to be ſecured and protected by thee, when we cannot at all attend to our own preſervation. May it pleaſe thy Goodneſs to give this whole Family a comfortable reſt and repoſe; to defend this habitation, and all about us from fire and ſuch like ſad accidents; to deliver us from the power of evil Spirits, and of evil men; and to raiſe us in health and chearfulneſs to praiſe thee, and to glorifie thee, both in Soul and Body the next day.

Then will we ſing of thy power, yea,
Pſal. 56.16,17. *we will ſing aloud of thy mercy in the morning: becauſe thou haſt been our defence, and our refuge at all times. Unto thee, O our ſtrength will we ſing: for God is our defence, and the God of our mercy.*
Pſal. 111. 1. *We will praiſe the Lord with our whole heart, in the aſſembly of the upright, and in the*
Pſal. 92. 1, 2. *Congregation. For it is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to ſing praiſes unto thy Name, O moſt high, to ſhew forth thy loving kindneſs in the morning, and thy faithfulneſs every night.*

The earth is thine, and the fulneſs
Pſal. 24. 1. *thereof; the World, and they that dwell therein. Let all the People praiſe thee, O God; let all the People praiſe thee, O that all the ends of the World would remember*
Pſal. 22. 27. 28. *and turn unto the Lord; and all the kindreds of the Nations worſhip before him. For the Kingdom is the Lord's;*

and

and he is the Governour among the Nations. Bleſs eſpecially all Chriſtian Kings and Princes, that it may *be an abomination to them to commit wickedneſs; and their thrones may be eſtabliſhed by righteouſneſs.* And incline the hearts of all thoſe who have any authority in theſe Kingdoms to love and hold faſt thy true Religion, and to live according to it; that *by mercy and truth the King may be preſerved: and his throne be upholden by mercy. Let him faithfully judge the Poor, that his Throne may be eſtabliſhed for ever.* Prov. 16. 12. Prov. 20. 28. 29. 14.

We heartily deſire the eaſe, peace, and ſatisfaction of all thoſe who are in pain, trouble, and perplexity: and that all poor miſerable People may find ſupply of their wants from thy Bounty, and the Charity of thoſe on whom thou haſt beſtowed plenty and abundance. We humbly alſo wait for thy Bleſſing upon all our Relations and Friends; truſting in thee for

ſuch

ſuch a meaſure of health and all other good things as thou judgeſt uſeful for us; and eſpecially that the Lord Jeſus *will deliver us from every evil work, and preſerve us to his heavenly Kingdom: To whom be Glory for ever and ever.* Amen.

1 Tim. 4. 8.

Our Father which art in Heaven, hallowed be thy Name: Thy Kingdom come: Thy Will be done in Earth, as it is in Heaven: Give us this Day our daily Bread: And forgive us our treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that treſpaſs againſt us: And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, &c.

A ſhorter Morning Prayer for any Day in the Week, when there is not time by reaſon of ſome extraordinary occaſions, for the other.

O Moſt great and glorious God, the Sovereign of the World: upon whom we continually depend; to whom we owe all the love, the ſervice, and the praiſe that we are able to render to all eternity. We adore thy infinite Mercy, from whence we have received ſo many Bleſſings for the comfort of this life; and by which we have a ſure Hope of good things in the life to come. Bleſſed be thy Goodneſs which hath not ſuffered us to wander without inſtruction, after the fooliſh deſires of our own hearts: but haſt clearly ſhown us where our happineſs lies. We receive with all thankfulneſs thoſe holy words, which teach us the bleſſedneſs of poverty and contentedneſs of Spirit; of meekneſs and humility

humility of mind; of hungering and thirſting after righteouſneſs; of mercifulneſs and purity of heart; of peaceableneſs, and patient ſuffering, for doing the will of our Lord Chriſt.

O that we may have grace to labour always to be of the number of thoſe bleſſed Souls, that never ſet their hearts on any thing ſo much, as theſe heavenly Vertues! O that we may ever think and feel our ſelves, happy, in the comfort of thoſe great and precious promiſes of being made the Children of the higheſt, the Heirs of the Kingdom of Heaven, and at laſt of ſeeing thee our God. It ſuffices, O Lord, that we have theſe glorious hopes hereafter: which make us believe, thou wilt not let us want what is neceſſary for us, whilſt we continue here. We commend our ſelves, with an humble confidence, to thy watchful Providence this day: beſeeching thee to guide and aſſiſt us, that in all our deſires, words and actions, we may keep our ſelves innocent, and undefiled

undefiled before thee, and be diſpoſed to do all good, as we have opportunity.

And we heartily deſire that all Mankind may be filled with the ſame devotion to thee: and eſpecially that all Chriſtian People may glorifie thy Name, and be joyful in thee. And the greater any are in Dignity and Power, raiſe their Spirits to the greater pitch of Wiſdom, Mercy and Piety: That they may right thoſe that ſuffer wrong; and defend thoſe that have no Helper; and provide for the eaſe and comfort of all miſerable Creatures, to the utmoſt of their power. In this ardent charity we commit both Souls and Bodies to thee; beſeeching thee to increaſe our love to thee, and to all men, till we be fit to be tranſlated to the Religion of love and joy, and perfect ſatisfaction, through Chriſt Jeſus: who hath taught us, when we pray, to ſay,

Our Father, &c.

Another

Another ſhort Prayer for the Morning.

O Bleſſed God; be thou acknoledged, praiſed and loved by us, and all the Children of men; on whom thou poureſt continually thy Benefits. They are great and many: we know not the ſumm, nor underſtand the value of them. The Angels themſelves admired thy love to us in Chriſt Jeſus; and are become miniſtring Spirits to them, who are Heirs of Salvation. We enjoy the continual Fruits of thy watchful Providence; by which we have been kept in peace and ſafety the laſt Night, and are raiſed this Morning in health and ſtrength, both of Body and Mind, beholding all things belonging to us, juſt as we left them with thee, when we went to ſleep.

Accept we muſt humbly beſeech thee, of this poor tribute of praiſe, and thanks; together with the hearty

ty Oblation of our Souls and Bodies, which we here dedicate again to thy ſervice. Vouchſafe us the continued aſſiſtance of the Grace of thy Holy Spirit; to enable us to make good thoſe Vows that are upon us, *of obediently keeping thy holy will and commandments, and walking in the ſame all the days of our life.* Pardon, good Lord, all our breaches of this Sacred Covenant. Deal not with us according to our ſins, neither reward us after our iniquities: But in the multitude of thy tender mercies pity our errors and wanderings; and help us againſt our infirmities.

Give us leave this Day to put our ſelves into thy powerful protection, and to depend on thee for thy merciful guidance and aſſiſtance; that we may be more faithful to thee in the diſcharge of our Duties, and never ſwerve from the rules of Sobriety, Righteouſneſs, Charity and Godlineſs. So ſhall we return with joyful

joyful hearts to praiſe thee in the Evening: and teach thoſe who ſhall come after us, to continue thy praiſes in the next Generation. *Amen*, for thy mercies ſake in Chriſt Jeſus; in whoſe words we preſent the earneſt deſires of our hearts, for our ſelves, and all our Brethren; ſaying,

Our Father, &c.

A ſhort Prayer for the Evening, when there is no time for the longer.

O God; we thy Creatures, who have taſted liberally of thy Bounty many ways, and been bleſſed in our ſeveral employments, and mercifully preſerved from ſeveral dangers this day, are here met to join together in moſt hearty thankſgivings to thy Divine Majeſty; which with one accord we offer up unto thee. It is the greateſt happineſs of all, we acknowledge

knowledge, that we have any ſenſe of thee in our minds; any love to thee in our hearts; any remembrance of thy benefits; any holy diſpoſitions to obey thee; and any hopes that thou wilt pardon our ſins, and make us Partakers of eternal Life.

All that we deſire of thee, O Lord, is the continuance and encreaſe of this happineſs: that we may be poſſeſſed with a ſtronger ſenſe of thy Majeſty, thy Sovereign Power, thy unſearchable Wiſdom, Goodneſs and Truth; and be filled with a more ardent love to thee, and to all righteouſneſs; and delight to do thy Will in every thing, and rejoice in hope of thy Immortal Glory. As for all the things of this life in a grateful remembrance of thy many paſt mercies, we intirely truſt thee for the time to come: referring our ſelves to thy Wiſdom: and reſolving to be content with that portion, which thy good Providence is pleaſed to aſſign us. Help us but to be ſtedfaſt and immoveable in the work

work of our Lord, to bring forth all the fruits of the Spirit, *love, joy, peace, long-ſuffering, gentleneſs, goodneſs, faith, meekneſs, and temperance*; and we ſhall think our ſelves rich enough, and well provided for in every ſtate and condition of life.

In theſe holy thoughts and deſires we commend our ſelves to thy gracious protection this Night; hoping to find them freſh and lively in our Souls, when we awake in the Morning: and deſiring withall the happineſs of the reſt of the World, that they may know thee, and acknowledge thee, and be guided unto, and walk in the way that leads to everlaſting life, through Chriſt Jeſus our Bleſſed Redeemer. In whoſe powerful Name, and Comprehenſive words, we continue to pray as he hath taught us; ſaying,

Our Father, &c.

Another

Another for the Evening.

IN an humble and thankful ſenſe, O Lord of Heaven and Earth, of our intire dependance on thee, and of the Duty we owe thee, and the many promiſes and vows wherein we ſtand engaged to thee, we fall down before thee this Evening, and with all reverence, worſhip thy Divine Majeſty: Giving thee the Glory that is due unto thy Name, and acknowledging thy multiplied mercies to us, particularly thoſe of this Day; to the concluſion of which thou haſt now ſafely brought us, with new reſolutions in our hearts to continue for ever in thy faith, and fear, and love, and obedience.

It is but juſt and reaſonable, and we feel likewiſe, by daily experience, that it is our happineſs, to keep thy Commandments; and to maintain chearful thoughts of thee, and an hearty friendſhip with thee, by complying in all things with thy Holy Will.

O pardon our folly, moſt gracious God, in forſaking at any time that perfect Rule, to follow our own unruly deſires. Pardon us, we beſeech thee, for we know not how to pardon our ſelves ſuch ingratitude to thee, and cruelty to our ſelves. It is the grief of our hearts, that we have in the leaſt offended thee; and our moſt earneſt, unfeigned deſire to be preſerved hereafter in an exact conformity to our Rule in every thing. Yea, we would delight to do thy Will, O God, and take ſuch a pleaſure in all the acts of righteouſneſs, mercy, meekneſs, and gentleneſs to our Neighbours; and in praiſing and acknowledging thee, the God of all Grace, and living in an humble ſenſe of thy Bounty and our own undeſervings, and in a temperate and thankful uſe of all thy Bleſſings; that we may have the continual feaſt of a good conſcience, and the conſtant comfort and ſatisfaction of having thee always for our Friend, and our gracious Father in Chriſt Jeſus. O

O thou who art the Inſpirer of ſuch holy counſels, deſires and purpoſes, keep them for ever in our hearts. Encourage, ſtrengthen and encreaſe them, that after the refreſhment of a quiet ſleep this Night, we may feel them lively and powerful in the Morning: and with renewed joy, we may ſtill devote our ſelves to thy faithful ſervice. O that our Friends, and all thy people in every place, may partake of the ſame mercies we deſire for our ſelves: and howſoever we are ſevered one from another in this World, grant us an happy meeting at the Day of our Lord, in whoſe words we pray thee to hear us.

Our Father, &c.

PRAYERS
FOR
Particular Perſons.

PRAYERS
FOR
Particular Perſons.

A Prayer for the Morning to be ſaid by any Perſon alone.

O Moſt holy, bleſſed and glorious Majeſty of Heaven and Earth: who art before all things, becauſe they all receive their Being from thee; and who art of thy ſelf, infinite in all perfections. Before thee who art ſo great and incomprehenſible, I moſt humbly proſtrate my ſelf this Morning; rejoicing in this happy liberty which thou vouchſafeſt me, of retiring my thoughts a little from this World, to look up unto thee, the Father of my Being.

I adore and praiſe thy eternal Power, Wiſdom and Goodneſs. I heartily acknowledge the Duty which I

I owe thee, both as I am thy Creature, and as I am a Chriſtian. I bewail all my neglects of it, my backwardneſs unto it, or coldneſs in it. I intreat thy gracious Pardon, and engage my ſelf, for the time to come, more heartily and firmly to thy obedience: beſeeching the Grace of thy Holy Spirit to enable me to perform all thoſe engagements which are upon me. And Bleſſed be thy Fatherly Goodneſs, which hath ſo often prevented me with that Grace. I owe to it all the good thoughts and inclinations that are in my heart; all thoſe motions that I feel in my Soul towards thee, as my chiefeſt good; with all the effects and fruits of them in my Life and Actions; which encourage me to hope in thee for the conſtant help of it, to further me in well doing unto the end.

O thou who haſt ſent thy Son from Heaven to dwell among us, who haſt not ſpared his Life, but given him up for us all; who haſt raiſed

raiſed him from the dead, and made him Heir of all things; who haſt given him all power in Heaven and Earth, that he may bleſs us and do us good; deny not the deſires of a Soul that offers up it ſelf intirely in ſincere affection to thy Service. But aſſiſt me ſo mightily from above, that I may make thee my conſtant acknowledgments likewiſe, for the ſenſible fruits of his Life, Death, Reſurrection and Exaltation produced in my heart: growing more and more in all Wiſdom, Righteouſneſs, Purity, Humility, Goodneſs, and every other Divine Vertue. For which end preſerve me always in ſuch a ſerious temper of mind, that the ſenſe of my Duty to thee, may make me always ready and forward to it; and the ſenſe of my weakneſs, may make me watchful and diligent; and the ſenſe of my former negligence, excite me to be fervent in Spirit; and the goodneſs of thy commands may render me more fruitful and abundant

in the work of the Lord; and the great danger I have eſcaped, and the bleſſedneſs before me, may provoke me to perſevere moſt patiently in all well doing, with joy and thankfulneſs. So that I may be like to Chriſt Jeſus my gracious Lord and Maſter, and do him honour here in this World; and walk worthy of the great Privileges he hath beſtowed on me, and make grateful returns for all the vaſt precepts I have had from thy moſt bounteous mercy. O that all my acknowledgments, and pious affections may be turned into actions of holineſs and piety; and all my actions may be ſpirited with Zeal; and all my zeal be regulated with prudence; and my prudence be void of all guile, and joyned with perfect integrity of heart: that adorning thy moſt holy Faith and Profeſſion, by a religious, upright, charitable and diſcreet converſation whilſt I am here, I may receive approbation and praiſe, at the Day of the Lord Jeſus, and be numbred

bred among thy Saints in Glory everlaſting.

This, O Lord, is the ſumm of all my deſires. Diſpoſe me, by every thing that befals me, for Eternal Life, and it ſufficeth. I wholly leave my concerns in this life to the wiſdom of thy Goodneſs; that thou mayeſt order what thou judgeſt to be fitteſt for me. I truſt thee with my ſelf, and all I have; hoping thou wilt preſerve me from all things hurtful, and lead me to all things profitable for my Salvation.

The like I wiſh to all the World; that Unbelievers may be tranſlated out of the Kingdom of Darkneſs, into the Kingdom of thy dear Son; and they who are called by the Name of Chriſt may depart from all iniquity. Inſpire all Kings and Princes of the Earth, eſpecially our Sovereign, with great Wiſdom and Charity; and make them like to thee, the Lord of all: who art good unto all, and pleaſed in mercy. Endue all our paſtors and

Guides with true knowledge, piety and zeal; and give me, and all Chriſtian People Grace to receive their inſtructions with a meek, humble and obedient heart.

Thou knoweſt the ſorrows, trouble and perplexities of all afflicted perſons; for whom I implore thy compaſſionate relief. Support them with a lively faith and hope in thy precious promiſes, diſpoſe them thereby to a more ſtrict obſervance of thy holy commands; and convert their preſent ſufferings into endleſs joys; when they have brought forth the peaceable fruit of righteouſneſs. And whilſt thou art pleaſed to continue to me that eaſe, plenty and proſperity which I enjoy; fill me with ſuch a ſenſe of thy undeſerved Goodneſs, that I may be the more ready to do good to thoſe, who are in miſery; and by a ſober and moderate uſe of thy Bleſſings, be prepared to endure patiently whatſoever change thou ſhalt be pleaſed to order for me, into a worſe condition.

Preſerve

Preſerve me all this Day in innocence, and in love to thee and to all men. And ſince in all my ways I acknowledge thee; do thou direct my paths, and teach me to guide my affairs with diſcretion. Thou art my hope and my confidence; my ſatisfaction and my peace; my glory and my joy; therefore never leave me nor forſake me, but conduct me ſafely by thy counſel through all the buſineſſes and enjoyments, through all the temptations and troubles of this life, to that bleſſed place where our Lord Jeſus liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the ſame Spirit, World without end. *Amen.*

Prov. 3. 6.
Pſal. 112. 5.

Our Father, &c.

A Prayer for the Evening.

O Lord, the Creator of the World, and the Redeemer of Mankind: Who knoweſt all things, and canſt do what thou pleaſeſt; and wilt do that which is beſt for thy Children; and haſt done us a world of good already; and promiſed to do more for us, if we be obedient, than we can ask or think; and haſt given us the greateſt aſſurance of the truth of thoſe promiſes by thy Son Jeſus; who died for us, and whom thou haſt raiſed from the dead; and given him the promiſe of the Holy Ghoſt, which he hath poured forth abundantly, to ſhed abroad thy love in our hearts. I fall down before thee in the lowlieſt manner, to expreſs my fear and reverence of thy Almighty Power; my admiration of and ſubmiſſion to thy unſearchable Wiſdom; my hearty love and thankful acknowledgement of thy wondrous Goodneſs; my truſt

and

and confidence in thy faithful promiſes; with my readineſs, and ſincere purpoſes to perform all obedience to thy holy commands.

There is nothing, O Lord, ſo afflictive to me, as the remembrance that I have any time offended thy Sovereign Authority. I am heartily ſorry for the breaking of any of thy ſacred, righteous and good Laws. I abhor the thoughts of doing ſo again. And proteſt eternal enmity to all that is contrary to thy bleſſed Will; addicting my ſelf with moſt hearty affection to thy true and faithful ſervice. Pardon me therefore, moſt gracious and merciful Father, and accept theſe holy reſolutions which thou haſt inſpired me withal. Strengthen, I beſeech thee, and further them with thy continued Grace, that no ſudden deſires, vehement inclinations, ineffectual purpoſes, no nor partial performances, may deceive and lead me into a falſe opinion of my ſelf; but I may bring forth actually, and with a

conſtant

conſtant Spirit, all the Fruits of righteouſneſs, which are by Chriſt Jeſus to the Praiſe and Glory of thee, my God. Poſſeſs me with ſuch a deep and ſtrong ſenſe of thy ſupream Authority over all, of the obligations I have to thee, and the great kindneſs thou haſt done me in engaging me to be thy Servant; that Religion may be the very buſineſs of my life, and my greateſt Pleaſure may be to pleaſe thee in every thing, and my higheſt Deſign to attain that bleſſed immortality, which Chriſt Jeſus hath promiſed.

O lift up my affections more and more to thoſe things above, where he is: That Heaven may have my heart whilſt this world hath my Body; and I may have perfect contentment of mind in well-doing and patient ſuffering; and the good hope I have of being eternally beloved of thee, the Lord of Heaven and Earth, may make me rejoice evermore. Free me from all inordinate cares for the things

things of this life, from all diſtruſt of thy good Providence; from all repining at any thing that befals me: and enable me in every thing to give thanks; believing that all things are ordered by the greateſt reaſon, and ſhall work together for good to thoſe that love thee.

I doubt not of thy Fatherly affection to thoſe that ſtudy, in all ſincerity to approve themſelves unto Thee: and therefore ſtill reſolved to leave my ſelf intirely to thy wiſe Counſels, that thou may'ſt diſpoſe me into ſuch a condition as thou ſeeſt beſt for me in this World. Remember me but of my Duty; quicken and excite me to it; ſtrengthen me in the doing of it; ſupport me under all diſcouragements; adviſe me in all difficult caſes; and comfort me with a ſtedfaſt belief of thy Holy Word; and I ſhall ever be giving thanks and praiſe unto thee, who dealeſt ſo bountifully with me.

Into thy hands I commend this Night

Night, both Soul and Body, which have been mercifully preſerved in ſafety all this Day. I repoſe my ſelf in the belief of thy watchful Providence; and that thou giveſt thy Angels charge over us, and art about our Beds, and about our Paths, and ſpieſt out all our thoughts. O continue theſe holy thoughts and deſires in me till I fall aſleep: that thou may'ſt have a Soul full of love to thee in thy cuſtody; and I may receive the light of the Morning, if thou prolongeſt my life, with new joy in thee, and thankful affection to thee.

I moſt heartily deſire likewiſe, O merciful God, the good of the whole World. Pity the follies of Mankind: deliver them from their ſins, and from their miſeries. Hear the groans of every part of the Creature, that is yet ſubject to the bondage of corruption, and bring them all into the glorious liberty of thy Children. Hear the daily Prayers of the Catholick Church. Free her from all foul and divi-

dividing errors: Let the truth, as it is in Jeſus, prevail, and peace be in all her Borders. O that all Chriſtian Kings and Governours may follow after peace and enſue it. Make thy Miniſters the Meſſengers of Peace: and diſpoſe the hearts of all Chriſtians to keep the Unity of the Spirit in the Bond of Peace.

Enlighten the minds of all Jews, Turks and Infidels with the knowledge of thy Truth. Give repentance unto Sinners, and encreaſe of Grace and ſtrength to all thy faithful Servants. Reduce thoſe that wander out of the way: raiſe up thoſe who are fallen: confirm and ſettle thoſe that ſtand; and grant them a ſtedfaſt reſolution to perſevere in faith, love and obedience. Relieve and comfort all thoſe that are in any diſtreſs. Make the Earth to bring forth her increaſe in due Seaſon. And let all honeſt and induſtrious People be ſucceeded and bleſſed in their labours.

Remember all thoſe to whom I am indebted

indebted for my Birth, Education, Inſtruction or Promotion: Thou who art rich in mercy, reward and recompence their care and love. Grant forgiveneſs and charity to all my Enemies. Continue good will among all my kind Neighbours. Support the Sick in faith and patience. Aſſiſt thoſe who are dying and leaving this World. Fit them for a better place; receive the Souls which thou haſt redeemed with thy Son's moſt precious Blood, and ſanctified by the Holy Ghoſt; and give us all a glorious reſurrection and eternal life. *Amen. Amen.*

Our Father which art in Heaven, hallowed be thy Name: Thy Kingdom come: Thy Will be done in Earth, as it is in Heaven: Give us this Day our daily Bread: And forgive us our treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that treſpaſs againſt us: And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, &c.

A ſhort Prayer to be uſed by any one alone in the Morning.

I Adore thee, O Lord, the Poſſeſſor of Heaven and Earth: who ſurpaſſeſt all our thoughts, and doſt us good beyond all our deſires. There is all reaſon that I ſhould acknowledge thee continually; that I ſhould worſhip, and praiſe, and love, and obey thee, whilſt I have my Being. I cannot but witneſs againſt my ſelf, whenſoever I neglect thee; much more when I oppoſe thy moſt high Authority, by doing contrary to thy Laws. For thy Almighty Goodneſs gave me my being; and by that alone have I been maintained and liberally provided for: yea, it hath born with me very patiently in my rebellion, and uſed extraordinary means to make us Friends, and ceaſes not its intreaties after many unkind denials; but continues to importune me, till my heart conſent to yield it ſelf intirely to thee.

I can-

I cannot with-hold my ſelf, O Lord, from thee when I conſider what thou art, and what thou haſt been to me: ſuch a tender, gracious and compaſſionate Father, as my greateſt affections cannot find words to expreſs. I muſt again ſurrender Soul and Body into thy hands, which have been ſo long, ſo lovingly ſtretched out towards me: reſolving to ſtay with thee, and never to depart away from thee.

For the more I know of thee, the more I find that I muſt needs love thee: and the more I love thee, the more I deſire to love thee, and to reſemble thee, and to be beloved of thee. O that I may feel the power of thy love ſo great in my heart, that it may govern the reſt of my paſſions and affections: and nothing in the World may tempt me to diſpleaſe thee, but every thing provoke me more to love thee, and delight in thee, and obey thee, *For whom is there in Heaven that I can deſire but thee,*

thee, or on earth beſides thee! who art the bleſſed and only Potentate, the King of Kings, and Lord of Lords; who only haſt immortality? and deſigneſt by thy Son Jeſus to raiſe us ſinful Duſt and Aſhes, to a Kingdom, Glory, Honour and Immortality in the Heavens.

I moſt earneſtly beſeech thee that this ſenſe of thee may accompany me whereſoever I go, and in whatſoever I do this Day. That approving my ſelf to thee in ſuch a godly, ſober, righteous, charitable and prudent behaviour, as may adorn the Goſpel of my Lord and Maſter Chriſt Jeſus; I may have a greater aſſurance of thy good will towards me, and an undoubted hope of thy mercy in him to Eternal Life. In whoſe moſt bleſſed Name and Words I humbly recommend my ſelf, my Friends, and all thy Servants to thy infinite Charity; ſaying as he hath taught us,

Our Father, &c.

Another

Another for the Evening.

BLeſſing, Glory, Honour and Praiſe be again returned to thee, O Father of mercy, from a moſt thankful heart; which offers up it ſelf alſo in holy devotion to thee. Who art my Sovereign Lord, my moſt loving Saviour, my Deliverer and Benefactor; the Fountain of all the good things I enjoy at preſent, and the hope of my Soul for ever and ever. Bleſſed be thy renewed kindneſs to me this Day paſt: both to my ſelf and my Relations, to my Soul and my Body, in my tranſactions with men, and in the liberty thou alloweſt me of addreſſes to thy ſelf. Pardon, good Lord, whatſoever hath eſcaped me in thought, word, or deed, contrary to my Duty: And accept of thoſe ſincere intentions, and unfeigned purpoſes, which were, and I hope ſhall always be in my heart to ſtudy to approve my ſelf to thee in all well-doing.

It

It is but juſt and reaſonable that I ſhould follow thy Will, and not my own: and in a grateful ſenſe of what I have received from thee, I ought to be moved to employ all the powers of my Soul and Body for thee. But ſuch is the Goodneſs of thy Will, that it is for my eaſe and pleaſure, and greateſt happineſs, to be abſolutely led and governed by it. I am ſenſible, O Lord, how much I am indebted to thee for teaching me by Chriſt Jeſus, and alſo ſtrongly obliging me to exerciſe my ſelf to all godlineſs, purity, righteouſneſs, humility, goodneſs and truth. And accordingly I thank thee, above all things, for his holy inſtructions and example; for the hope thou haſt given us by his Blood, that thou wilt be ſo merciful to our ſins, as not to deny us the power of thy Holy Spirit to enable us to follow him, and obey his Commands; and for that exceeding great and precious Promiſe which he hath given us of Immortal Life, to encourage

courage us to follow him willingly and chearfully, even to the Death.

O that I may feel a lively and ſtedfaſt Faith in his Word, continually working with great power in my heart; exciting me to an unwearied diligence, and zeal, and love, and patient continuance in my duty towards thee, and towards all Men: That ſo my hope in thee may grow and increaſe, and I may joyfully expect that hour which ſhall tranſlate me hence to the eternal happineſs of the other World. And during my ſtay here, I commend my ſelf to thy good Providence, which hath hitherto been ſo tender of me. I truſt thee wholly with my ſelf, and all belonging to me: and am willing in every thing to be diſpoſed of, as thou ſeeſt good. This Night I flee unto thy Almighty Protection; hoping thou wilt keep me ſafely, and whether I awaken in this or the other life, I ſhall ſtill be praiſing thee; whoſe mercy endureth for ever, *Amen*; for Chriſt Jeſus his ſake;

by

by whom thou haſt encouraged me to hope in thee, and taught me to call thee Father; ſaying,

Our Father which art in Heaven, hallowed be thy Name: Thy Kingdom come; Thy will be done in Earth, as it is in Heaven: Give us this Day our daily Bread: And forgive us our treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that treſpaſs againſt us: and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, &c.

THAT time which is wont to be ſpent in the Church, in talking or looking about, before Divine Service begin; may be better employed in private Prayer, to diſpoſe us to join with greater ſeriouſneſs in the Publick. And indeed our buſineſs being there with God alone, and that Place being ſeparated for his Service only; the cuſtom which now univerſally prevails, of entertaining Diſcourſe one with another, is very undecent (to ſay no worſe) and ought to be reformed. We have other times and places enough to conferr with our Neighbours: and therefore have no temptation to pervert the uſe of this: which is ſet apart for devout intercourſe with God, and none elſe, by ſpeaking to him in Prayer and Praiſes, and hearing him ſpeak to us in his holy Word. It is fit to ſilence all other ſpeech; and therefore here follow ſome helps for that purpoſe: which I hope all good Chriſtians will endeavour to uſe or imitate; and not deſpiſe this loving Admonition.

PRI-

PRIVATE PRAYERS IN THE CHURCH.

A ſhort Prayer before Divine Service begins.

BEhold, O Lord of Heaven and Earth, a Soul proſtrate before thee; deſirous to be filled with ſuch an awful ſenſe of thy Divine Majeſty that no other thing may interpoſe it ſelf, while I am in thy preſence. Fix my inconſtant thoughts in a ſtedfaſt attention, to thy moſt Holy Word. Inſpire me with devout affections, when I ſet forth thy praiſe, and render thanks for all thy Benefits. And excite in me ſuch fervent deſires for all thoſe things, which I ask of thee; that I may feel my ſelf better diſpoſed by theſe Addreſſes to thee, to every Chriſtian

Duty the reſt of this Day; through Chriſt Jeſus our Lord and Saviour *Amen.*

Another.

IN an humble and thankful ſenſe of thine infinite Goodneſs, which honoureth us ſo much as to ſpeak to us, and give us leave to ſpeak to thee; I bow down my ſelf before thee, O moſt high and holy Lord, the Creator of the World, deſiring my mind may be poſſeſſed with ſuch great thoughts of thee, whom the Heaven of Heavens cannot contain, and who openeſt thy hand and filleſt all things with good, that I may moſt reverently worſhip thee; and affectionately acknowledge thy Bounty; and ſet my heart open to receive thy holy Word; and my mouth may praiſe thee with joyful lips. Silence all other thoughts and deſires in me, while I am here in thy preſence. And

liſt

liſt up my heart ſo towards Heaven, that I may feel it united to that glorious Company above; who perpetually praiſe thee, and rejoice in thee, and do thy Commandments hearkening to the voice of thy Word. Which I humbly beg in the Name of Chriſt Jeſus, which is ever dear unto thee; and by whom thou haſt promiſed to hear us. *Amen.*

Or thoſe words of the Prophet David (*which you read,* Pſal. 5. 7 17. 1. 118. 28. 119. 47, 48, &c.) *may be a little altered in this manner:*

IN the multitude of thy mercies I come into thy Houſe: and in thy fear will I worſhip toward thy holy place. Attend unto my cry, O Lord, and give ear unto my Prayer that goeth not out of feigned lips. Thou art my God, and I will praiſe thee; thou art my God, and I will exalt thee. And I will delight my ſelf in thy Commandments which I have loved

ved. My hands alſo will I lift up to thy commandments which I have loved: and I will meditate on thy Statutes. Let thy tender mercies come alſo unto me, O Lord; even thy Salvation according to thy Word. Look upon me, and be merciful unto me, as thou uſeſt to do to thoſe that love thy Name, Order my ſteps in thy Word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me. *Amen.*

A longer Prayer in the Church, when there is time for it, before the beginning of Divine Service.

I Caſt down my ſelf, O Lord, in an holy fear and humble adoration of thine incomprehenſible Majeſty, who filleſt Heaven and Earth; but delighteſt to make thy ſelf more peculiarly preſent to thoſe that acknowledge and praiſe thee, and are deſirous to be filled with a conſtant ſenſe of thee, and intire love to thee.

Bleſſed

Bleſſed be thy infinite Goodneſs, which hath incouraged ſuch Wretches, as I am, by the declaration of thy good will to us in Chriſt Jeſus, by thy moſt gracious invitations and precious promiſes, and by the long experience I have had of thy kindneſs to approach unto thee, O Lord moſt High.

I accept moſt thankfully of this *freedom* and liberty *of acceſs with confidence by the faith of Jeſus*; and am here to join with the reſt of thy Servants in extolling and magnifying thy eternal Power, Wiſdom and Goodneſs; in giving thanks to thee for thy innumerable Bleſſings; in hearing thy moſt holy Word; and making our humble Supplications, for the continuance of thy undeſerved grace and favour toward us. Compoſe mine and every one of our thoughts, to the moſt ſilent admiration of thee: Strike our Spirits with a reverend apprehenſion of the ſurpaſſing Greatneſs and Glory of thy

Majeſty: Raiſe our affections to the higheſt pitch of love and gratitude to thee: bow our wills to the moſt cheerful ſubmiſſion to all thy holy commands: and touch us with an unſpeakable joy, when we read and hear thy exceeding great and precious promiſes.

Vouchſafe, moſt loving Father, the power of thy holy Spirit to attend upon me; to draw my mind from all other things, and to give me ſuch a lively taſt of the pleaſures of thy Houſe, as may make me ever delight to attend upon thee here, and walk with thee in every other place with a perfect heart. That ſo my own *heart not condemning me, I may have more and more confidence towards thee, that whatſoever I ask I ſhall receive of thee; becauſe I keep thy Commandments, and do thoſe things which are pleaſing in thy ſight; truly my Soul waiteth upon thee; from thee cometh my ſalvation. Hear my cry, O God, and attend unto my prayer*, for the

1 Joh. 3. 21, 21.

Pſal. 62. 1. 61. 1.

the honour of our Lord Jeſus, and the love thou beareſt to him; who hath bid us ask, and we ſhall receive; ſeek, and we ſhall find; knock, and it ſhall be opened unto us. Let it be to thy Servant, I moſt ardently beſeech thee, according to his Word. *Amen.*

Another longer.

O Lord of Heaven and Earth, who art infinite and incomprehenſible in thy Being, eternal in thy duration, and unchangeable in thy Nature: who canſt do what thou wilt; and delighteſt in doing us good. By thy Power I and all Creatures were made; by thy Wiſdom we are govern'd; by thy Goodneſs and Bounty we are provided for; under thy Sovereign Dominion we live; and unto thy Majeſty we owe all reverence, ſervice and faithful obedience. I adore and humbly worſhip thee. I

acknowledge my ſelf bound by innumerable ties to fear thee, to love thee, to praiſe thee, and to ſerve thee with all my heart, and ſoul, and ſtrength. Bleſſed be thy Goodneſs that I have any hope thou wilt accept of ſuch a worthleſs thing as my love. Bleſſed be thy Goodneſs I admire at the riches of thy Grace, that thou doſt not reject all the ſervice that I can tender thee. Nay, it is to be aſcribed to thee alone, that I am alive to worſhip thee, and have the Doors of thy Houſe ſtand open to me; and that I have any heart to enter into it, to offer up ſpiritual Sacrifices by Chriſt Jeſus

O God, I offer thee here my whole ſelf, which is all due to thee, becauſe I received it all from thee: beſeeching thee moſt earneſtly to make me feel that I am not mine own any longer, but thine; by taking off my thoughts and affections from all other things at this preſent, and filling me with ſuch a reverend apprehenſion of thee,

thee, ſuch hearty devotion to thee, and heavenly joy in thee; that I may every Day offer up my ſelf to thee more holy and more pure, more meek and merciful, more humble and thankful, more chearfully diſpoſed to every good work, and better prepared to bear a part in the Praiſes and Services of the glorious Company above.

Thou knoweſt the weakneſs of our Nature, how ſoon our thoughts are tired and apt to ſtart aſide when we direct them towards Heaven: Vouchſafe me therefore the aſſiſtance of thy Holy Spirit to compoſe my mind to the moſt ſerious, the moſt earneſt, the moſt devout and chearfull attention in all Parts of thy Divine Service. That I may have the livelieſt ſenſe of thy glorious Perfections when I praiſe thee; and the moſt delightful remembrance of thy Mercies, when I give thee thanks; and the moſt thirſty deſires to be conformed to thy Will, and to feel more

and

and more the influences of thy Grace, when I hear thy holy Word, and preſent my Prayers and Supplications before thee.

Accept, O Bleſſed God, of this good will and ſincere affection that I have to thy Service; though performed with broken and diſtracted thoughts, and with too great liſtleſneſs and dulneſs of Spirit. And help me continually to out-grow this weakneſs, and to preſent thee with an heart more quiet, calm and fit to receive thee; more perfect and intire in ardent love to thee, and more ſettled and fixed in thee, as its chiefeſt joy and happineſs; That ſo all the reſt of the actions of my life may be a more conſtant and even performance of my Duty, according to the command and example of my Bleſſed Lord and Maſter Chriſt Jeſus. In whoſe Name it is that I am bold to approach into thy preſence: believing the Power and Authority thou haſt given him over all, to bleſs us, and to do

for us exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think. By himbe Glory unto thee, O Father Almighty, in the Church, thoughout all Ages, World without end. *Amen.*

At the concluſion of Divine Service after theſe words, The Grace of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, *&c.*

Say, Amen, *with the heartieſt and moſt earneſt affection. And add ſome ſuch words as theſe:*

BLeſſed be thy Name, O God, for the good hope which thy infinite Charity hath given us, by thy great Grace in Chriſt Jeſus, and the plentiful communication of the Holy Ghoſt. O let thy mercy be upon me according as I hope in thee. Preſerve me alway in thy love, through that abundant Grace in thy Son Chriſt, and the powerful preſence of thy Holy Spirit work in me mightily, this Day and ever. *Or*

Or *after* The peace of God which paſſeth all underſtand, &c. *you may ſay as the Apoſtle* St. Paul (2 Theſſ. 3. 16.) and the Pſalmiſt, 115. 12, 13, 18.

NOW the Lord of Peace himſelf give me Peace always, by all means. The Lord be with us all. The Lord hath been mindful of us, he will bleſs us. He will bleſs them that fear him, both ſmall and great. And we will bleſs the Lord from this time forth, and for evermore. Amen.

A ſhort Prayer for the Lord's Day, or any other, to be uſed at home before Morning Service.

O Lord, the Almighty Creator of the World, and the merciful Saviour of Mankind; who art above all our thoughts, and excelleſt the Praiſes of the higheſt Angels.

Thou

Thou art greatly to be feared in the Aſſembly of thy Saints, and to be had in reverence of all thoſe that are about thee. I moſt humbly deſire leave to joyn my ſelf with all thoſe holy ones, to worſhip thy moſt glorious Majeſty to expreſs the due ſenſe I have of all thy benefits (by paying thee my moſt thankful acknowledgments for them) to make thee the beſt Oblation I am able and devote my ſelf intirely to thy obedience.

Since thou haſt graciouſly inclined me to go into thy Houſe, and there to ſet forth thy praiſe, to declare thy loving kindneſs, to reſign my ſelf to thy Will, to recommend my ſelf to thy Wiſdom, to ſubmit to thy Government, to approve the Juſtice and Goodneſs of all thy Laws, to profeſs that I am thy Servant, to renounce all thy Enemies and to teſtifie my continued purpoſe to follow thee againſt all the temptations of the World, the Fleſh and the Devil: be pleaſed, good Lord, to pardon all my former failings

ings, and at this preſent to accept my holy intentions, and to inſpire me from above, that I may chearfully perform all theſe acts of Devotion to thy Divine Majeſty.

And vouchſafe more fully to inform me in my Duty, to correct and amend what is amiſs in me, to encourage and ſtrengthen my good reſolutions, and to aſſiſt me in all well-doing. Fill me with a great love to thee, and to my bleſſed Saviour; to thy holy Word, and to all holy Duties; to Chriſtian People every where, and to all Mankind. Perfect me in Wiſdom, in Holineſs, and in Goodneſs. By all thy inſtructions, by all thy mercies, by all thy chaſtiſements, and by all my prayers, praiſes and thankſgivings to thee, the Father of Mercies; make me ſuch as thou canſt love and delight in, and reward at the Great Day of the Lord Jeſus. *Amen.*

A ſhort Prayer at home, after we are come from Church, before Dinner.

I Adore thee again, O Lord of Life and Glory; I acknowledge my dependance on thee. I thank thee for thy mercies, which thou never ceaſeſt to heap upon me. Accept, I beſeech thee, of that dedication I have made of Soul and Body, with praiſes and thankſgivings unto thee in the publick Congregation. Be merciful to all my ſins; and endue me with the Grace of thy Holy Spirit, to enable me to preſent my ſelf, when I appear again before thee, a more holy and devout Sacrifice unto thee; ſtedfaſtly reſolved, and chearfully diſpoſed, in every thing to be ordered by thy Will.

For which end be pleaſed to ſettle and root in my heart a ſtronge belief of thy Holy Goſpel, and to fix my thoughts and affections upon that unſeen happineſs and bliſs where our Savi-

Saviour is; That nothing here below may either allure or affright me from my Duty, nor ever make me remiſs or negligent in it; but I may be zealous of good works, fervent in Spirit ſerving my Lord, from whom I expect the reward of an immortal Inheritance.

Preſerve in me always a Religious ſenſe of thee. And make me now ſo thankful and ſober a Partaker of the refreſhments of my Body, that they may not damp the Devotion of my Soul: But I may rather return to worſhip thee with greater chearfulneſs and gladneſs of heart, after thou haſt added the good things of this World, to thoſe of the other; according to thy abundant love in Chriſt Jeſus. *Amen.*

A Pray-

A Prayer in private before the Evening Service.

O God who art *rich in mercy to all that call upon thee*, and haſt bid us *pray without ceaſing*, *and rejoyce evermore.* 1 Theſſ. 5. In obedience to thy command, and encouraged by the Goodneſs of thy Nature, thy gracious Invitations, thy moſt precious Promiſes, and the long experience that I and others have had of thy Bounty, I am bold again to approach into thy preſence; to renew my requeſts unto thee, to bleſs thy holy Name, to make profeſſion of my love to thee, and readineſs in all things to obey thee. Quicken my thoughts and affections, O Lord, to a free and joyful attendance on thee in all holy Duties: that no dulneſs nor wearineſs may ſeize upon my Spirit; but ſuch a fervent love to thee may poſſeſs my heart, as may render all the employments of Religion my delight,

delight, and the doing thy Will both now and alway my greateſt pleaſure.

And paſs by, I moſt humbly beſeech thee, all my unwilling indiſpoſitions. Accept of ſuch ſervice as I am able to render thee. And diſpoſe me by all my Addreſſes to thee, to be more circumſpect and watchful, more diligent and induſtrious, more forward and zealous in the performance of every part of my Duty. That being led by thy Counſel, governed by thy Spirit, and preſerved by thy gracious Providence, I may at laſt be admitted into the Company of the Bleſſed; there to perfect my praiſes and acknowledgments, and to receive the reward of patient continuance in well-doing, through Chriſt Jeſus. Whoſe *grace be with my Spirit.* Amen.

Another after the Evening Service is done, as ſoon as there is opportunity to retire alone.

I Acknowledge thy manifold Bleſſings, O Lord, which are renewed upon me every moment, I owe my life continually to thee, with all the comforts of it. If I had no more to thank thee for, but the mercies of this Day, they are ſo many, ſo great, that I could never thank thee enough for them. Thou takeſt care of my Body, and of my Soul. Thou feedeſt me at thy Houſe, and at my own. Thou letteſt me taſte the Bread of Life which came down from Heaven, beſides the many ſupports and refreſhments which thou affordeſt for this natural life. Several of thy Creatures loſe their lives to preſerve mine, and thy dear Son hath not thought it too much to lay down his precious Life for my ſake. Thou ſpeakeſt to me, and giveſt me leave to ſpeak to thee

thee. Thou inſtructeſt me in my Duty, and haſt made thoſe things my Duty, which are really my happineſs. Thou engageſt me to do my ſelf good here by promiſing a greater good hereafter.

I praiſe thee; I thank thee; and will be ever ſpeaking good of thee. And it is a new favour that I may thus praiſe and bleſs thee, both in the Aſſemblies of thy People, and in my own retirements. O give me an heart to delight in it, and in all other duties of a Chriſtian Life. That obeying thy holy Goſpel in all things, and being never weary in well-doing, I may find thy unwearied Goodneſs extending it ſelf to Immortal Life and Bliſs through Chriſt Jeſus.

O bleſſed Jeſus, that thy holy Laws may be more deeply engraven on my heart! O that every truth I have learnt this day, may be ſo faithfully preſerved and kept in mind; as to become the Rule of my Life, or the ground of my hope, and a powerful mo-

motive to univerſal and uniform obedience to the end of my days. O! that the remainder of my days may be the better for this day: and the holy reſt we obſerve here on Earth may be a beginning of the eternal reſt which we wait for at thy ſecond coming. Amen, *Come Lord Jeſus.*

A Prayer upon any Feſtival in remembrance of our bleſſed Lord and Saviour, to be added to the foregoing Devotion.

O Moſt glorious God, the Father of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, *the Father of lights, from whom cometh every good, and every perfect gift; with whom there is no variableneſs, nor ſhadow of change.* James 1. 15. Thou always waſt, and ever wilt be happy without us, or any of the praiſes that we or any other Creatures are able to render unto thee. But it is our Duty, our perfection, and high pri-

privilege, conſtantly to acknowledge thee, with joy and exaltation of Spirit; in remembrance of thy infinite Bounty to us and to all the World.

Every Day tells us how good thou art, and every one of thy Creatures calls upon us to magnifie thee, and love thee, and ſerve thee; who haſt made ſo many of them to ſerve us. But this Day gives us occaſion to remember thy more ſpecial and extraordinary kindneſs to us the Children of men; which calls for our higheſt and moſt exalted praiſes, to be joyned with thoſe of the bleſſed Company above, who are never weary of giving honour, glory, bleſſing and thankſgiving to thee; not only in their own behalf, but even for thy Goodneſs to us thy unworthy Creatures.

O how great was that love, which an Angel came to give notice of! and which a multitude of an heavenly Hoſt celebrated with Songs of Praiſe, when thou ſenteſt thy dear Son in the likeneſs of ſinful fleſh, and in the form

of

of a Servant, to miniſter to our neceſſities, to relieve our miſery, and to be the way to everlaſting life! O the Riches of thy Grace, that after Mankind had forfeited all the Rights of thy Creatures, and had contemned and deſpitefully uſed many of thy Meſſengers, thou wouldſt in much mercy create us again unto good works, and for that end appear thy ſelf moſt gloriouſly among us, in the perſon of Jeſus Chriſt.

I thank thee, O Lord, that thou haſt aſſumed our Nature unto ſuch a nearneſs to thee, as we are not able to underſtand. I thank thee for the glad tidings which Jeſus hath brought us from Heaven, that thou wilt be reconciled unto us, and admit us again into thy favour: and that he hath fulfilled all righteouſneſs; and ſhown us in our likeneſs what thou art, and what thou wouldſt have us to be. I thank thee for the redemption which he hath wrought for us by his blood. And I rejoice in the Victory which

he hath got over Hell and the Grave by his Reſurrection from the dead; and in his glorious Triumph, when he aſcended up on high, and led captivity captive; and in his Royal Power wherewith he was inveſted when he ſat down at the right hand of the Majeſty on high; and in thoſe gifts which he received for men, even for the rebellious alſo, that the Lord God might dwell among them.

Bleſſed be thy Eternal Goodneſs, which hath made him a moſt merciful and compaſſionate High Prieſt; and given us ſo great aſſurance that he is become the Author of eternal ſalvation unto all them that obey him.

Bleſſed be thy Goodneſs, which hath ſent the Holy Ghoſt; and continued to us a Succeſſion of Paſtors and Teachers, to be the Guides of our Souls, and to miniſter to us thoſe pledges of thy love, which our Saviour hath left us, in the Communion of his Body and Blood.

O God, that my heart could aſcend

up

up to heaven in theſe devout meditations, and in ardent love to thee, who haſt loved us in ſuch a marvellous manner! O that it might never come down again to this World, but with deſires left in it aſpiring towards Heaven! Touch my Soul ſo powerfully with a ſenſe of theſe things, that with an hearty and zealous affection it may ever look towards thee, and towards my dear Lord and Saviour Chriſt Jeſus. O fix mine eyes on him, as he was here on Earth, that I may learn of him, his humble and meek obedience to thy commands: and as he is now in Heaven, that I may truſt him for the performance of his precious promiſes, aud patiently wait till he carry me to that glorious place where he is enthroned.

Since he appeared among us to deſtroy the works of the Devil, and died to redeem us from all ſin, and roſe again that he may bleſs us in turning every one of us from our iniquities, and is made Lord of all that

he may govern us by his Laws, and reward and puniſh us according to our works; preſerve in my mind, I beſeech thee, a conſtant and lively ſenſe of this great end of his whole undertaking for us: That he may ſee the fruit of the travail of his Soul in me, and my whole life may be a ſerious ſtudy and endeavour to imitate him, by purifying my ſelf as he is pure.

O that thy fear and love, and an holy joy in thee, may preſerve me this day from abuſing any of the good things which thou alloweſt me for the refreſhment of my Body. Give me ſuch a ſavour and reliſh of thy Divine Truths revealed to us in the Goſpel, that I may not glut my ſelf with any fleſhly enjoyments, as if I knew no pleaſure more excellent. But raiſe up my mind by them to better delights: that I may enjoy them with thankſgiving to thee, with Bowels of mercy to thoſe who are in need, with a taſte of ſpiritual and heavenly joys, and

and with hunger and thirſt after the fulneſs and perfection of thoſe joys, when our Lord Jeſus ſhall come to ſhow us his Glory, and entertain us with eternal ſatisfaction in his incomprehenſible love. *Amen.*

A PRAYER ON *GOOD-FRIDAY* IN THE MORNING.

O Moſt holy and eternally bleſſed; the God and Father of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, by whom I am encouraged to come unto thee. And how ſhall I come, O Lord, but in the loweſt proſtrations of my Soul and Body; with mine eyes full of tears, and my heart full of grief and ſorrow, becauſe I have been ſo undutiful to thee, whoſe Grace and Mercy hath ſo exceedingly abounded towards us! When I caſt mine eyes upon my Saviour, and upon my ſelf, with the reſt of the Children of men; I am aſtoniſhed

niſhed at the wonderful Greatneſs of thy love, which ſurpaſſes the thoughts of Men and Angels.

For what were we that thou ſhouldeſt make thy dear Son a man of ſorrows, and acquainted with grief, for our ſake? That he ſhou'd become poor and mean, not having where to lay his head; and endure likewiſe cruel mockings and buffettings; and be ſpit upon and abuſed; yea, ſorely wounded and bruiſed; and drink that bitter Cup, that vile and accurſed Death of the Croſs, where he ſhed his moſt precious Blood, and gave himſelf a ranſom for us!

O Lord! what was the whole Race of Mankind worth, that thou ſhouldeſt purchaſe them with ſo dear a price? and by the obedience of thy Son Chriſt Jeſus unto the Death, grant a pardon for their rebellion? and ſeal a new Covenant of Grace in his blood? and by the ſame blood conſecrate him to be an High Prieſt with Royal Power in the Heavens, to give repentance

and remiſſion of ſin; and all this, ſo freely, that we did not ſo much as deſire it, nor did it enter into the heart of men to conceive, that thou ſhouldeſt be ſo gracious to them?

O Bleſſed God, how rich is thy Goodneſs, that lets us withal enjoy a great plenty of worldly good things; much of that eaſe and pleaſure which was denyed our Saviour? and yet we are Sinners, and he had no ſin, neither was guile found in his mouth: yea, we are ungrateful Sinners, ſo far from being ſenſible as we ought of ſuch infinite loving kindneſs; that we may juſtly fear leſt this Goodneſs of thine which was deſigned to ſave us, ſhould through our unthankfulneſs and negligence, prove the occaſion of our greater ruine.

I moſt heartily bewail, O moſt merciful Father, my ſhameful forgetfulneſs of ſo great benefits, or my cold and dull remembrance of them. I lament all the errors and miſcarriages of my life, which are the more heinous,

nous, I acknowledge after such a plain declaration of thy displeasure against sin, and of thy marvellous love to us Sinners. I am afflicted for the hardness and stupidity of my heart, which, alas! is often-times little pierced and wounded when I reflect upon his sorrow and pain, and anguish for the sake of Sinners: and for the listlesness and backwardness of my will, to give up my self absolutely to him, who so willingly gave himself an Offering for our sins. I blush to remember how weak and short my thoughts have been; how transient and ineffectual my passion when I have meditated on his bloody death and suffering: And am confounded when I think how suddenly I have started from those holy purposes and resolutions, which the sense of his love hath sometimes begot in my heart.

I cannot but accuse and condemn my self here in thy presence: but I likewise condemn every sinful desire that is still remaining in me, to die

and be crucified together with him. I would have nothing contrary to thy Will, to have any power, or live any longer in me, and therefore here yield up my ſelf intirely into thy hands, to be conformed in all things to Chriſt Jeſus who dyed for me. Fix my thoughts ſo conſtantly upon his dying love, and affect my heart ſo mightily therewith, that I may cheerfully undergo any pains to be made like unto him in his humility; in his obedience; in his reſignation of himſelf to thy wiſe will and pleaſure; in his patience; in his meekneſs, in his charity, and forgiveneſs of his enemies; in his willingneſs to quit all things for thy Names ſake, and to truſt both Soul and Body with thee, in well-doing and contented ſuffering, whatſoever it be that thou requireſt of me.

I deſire not to live, O Lord, but that I may live to him that died for me. I refuſe no approaches, no poverty, no pain or trouble, if thy will cannot other ways be accompliſhed by

by me. Do what thou pleaſeſt with me, ſo that I may be but perfected in holineſs, and obtain thy gracious pardon through the redemption that is in Jeſus.

I believe the virtue and power of his Sacrifice to be everlaſting; and that *when he had by himſelf purged our ſins, he ſat down on the right hand of the Majeſty on high*, and therefore I look for the conſtant aſſiſtance of thy good Spirit, which he hath bid me ask in his Name, to enable me to purifie my ſelf, and to tread in the ſteps of his humble, meek and patient Charity; that ſo I may be preſented unblameable and unreproveable in thy ſight at the Day of his Appearing.

Great is the Wiſdom of thy love wherein thy Grace hath abounded towards us in Chriſt Jeſus! Great are the encouragements which thou haſt given us, by his laying down his life for us, that he might take it again and live for evermore! Great is the boldneſs that we have *to enter into the holieſt*

holieſt by the blood of Jeſus; by a new and living way, which he hath conſecrated for us through his fleſh! Give me the Grace, I beſeech thee, wiſely to conſider and ponder the merciful deſign of thy Grace; to walk circumſpectly and exactly, as the redeemed of the Lord, as an Heir of his love, that hopes to ſee him in immortal glory. O that the comfort and joy of this hope, to ſee Jeſus, who was ſo ſcorned and abuſed, ſitting upon his Throne, and triumphing over all his enemies, may ſo raiſe and enlarge my mind by the power of it, that I may overlook and deſpiſe all the petty temptations of this World: looking ſtill ſtedfaſtly unto him, and following him with unmoveable reſolution; till I come to poſſeſs that which I hope for, and rejoice eternally in his love.

Hear me, O Father of Mercies, and deal graciouſly with me far beyond all my thoughts and deſires, for his ſake, who is the Author and the Finiſher of our Faith, who died once for

us,

us, and now lives for ever to make interceſſion on our behalf: by whom all honour, praiſe, thankſgiving, love and obedience be rendred to thee by me, and by all Mankind, both now and for ever. *Amen.*

A Prayer on Good-Friday *in the Evening.*

O Moſt holy, moſt gracious, the only wiſe God, moſt bleſſed for ever. We cannot conceive the greatneſs of thy perfections, nor is there any thing to which we can compare them. Thy holineſs is more unſpotted than the light of the Sun: Thy Goodneſs ſpreads it ſelf more largely than its Beams: thy Wiſdom pierces into thoſe Secrets which are buried in darkneſs; and though all things alter and wax old, yet thou art the ſame unchangeable Being, whoſe years have no end. How ſhall ſuch a vile Wretch as I am take the boldneſs to look

look towards thee, and ſpeak unto thee, who art ſo great, ſo glorious, and dwelleſt in light not to be approached?

Adored by thy wonderful love, who haſt encouraged our approaches to thee, by humbling thy ſelf to look down upon us, and by appearing graciouſly to us in our own Fleſh. Bleſſing, Honour, Glory and Praiſe be eternally aſcribed unto thee; who didſt not abhor us, and utterly caſt us out of thy ſight, when we had turned our backs upon thee; but ſent thy only begotten Son into the World, to call us again unto thee, yea, beſeech us, and oblige us, by laying down his own life for us, to return unto thee and live.

No thought can comprehend the unſearchable Riches of thy Grace manifeſted unto us in the Lord Jeſus, who was pleaſed to be vilely entreated, and ſhamefully uſed, to ſuffer the reproach of the Croſs, and to ſhed his deareſt Blood; that we might not

ſuffer

ſuffer the pain of Eternal Death, but be reſtored to the dignity of thy children, and advanced to honour, glory and immortality together with him. Thou haſt found out a way to manifeſt thy moſt tender love to us, without the leaſt ſuſpicion of approving and loving our ſins; and to preſeve thy Sovereign Authority, without deſtroying thoſe who were in rebellion againſt it. Thou haſt ordered ſuch a chaſtiſement of our iniquities, as might ſave and deliver us, who deſerved to be puniſhed: and ſo diſpoſed the means of our redemption, as to pardon and amend us both at once.

O the Wiſdom of thy Love, which hath *made him to be ſin for us, who knew no ſin, that we might be made the righteouſneſs of thee our God in him?* 2 Cor. 5. 21. O the riches of thy Grace, which hath abounded to us in all wiſdom and prudence! *Healing us by his ſtripes, and condemning ſin in the fleſh by his ſacrifice for ſin;* 1 Pet. 2. 24.

and

Rom. 8. 3. Gal. 3. 15. *and making him a curſe for us, that we might inherit a bleſſing, and receive the promiſe of the Spirit, through faith in him.* I ſee, O Lord, how infinitely I am indebted to thee. I behold the deſign of thy wiſe Goodneſs in *giving him for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity,* Tit. 2. 14. *and purifie us to himſelf a peculiar People, zealous of good works.* I thank thee with all my Soul, for 1 Pet. 2. *his bearing our Sins in his own body on the Tree, that we being dead unto ſin, ſhould live unto righteouſneſs.* There is nothing I can more deſire than by *doing righteouſneſs,* 1 John 3. *to become righteous even as he is righteous.* Aſſiſt me, I beſeech thee, to attain this end of his death and paſſion, by the power of that Holy Spirit which he hath thereby purchaſed for us, and hath likewiſe promiſed to us, and is able to bleſs us withal.

I dread

I dread to think that his precious Blood ſhould be loſt and ſpilt in vain for me; that ſo great a price ſhould be caſt away; wherewith thou haſt brought me to glorifie thee with my Body and Spirit which are thine. O God preſerve in me ſuch a lively ſenſe of his grief and ſorrow, of his pain and anguiſh; that I may bitterly hate the cauſe of all his torments, and look on every ſin, as the moſt fearful curſe that can befal me. Preſerve in me a conſtant ſenſe of the great value of my Soul, for which he paid ſo dearly, and a great eſteem of that purity, righteouſneſs and goodneſs, for the reſtoring of which he made himſelf of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a Servant, and was obedient to Death, even the Death of the Croſs.

And eſpecially raiſe me to a great heighth of love and gratitude to thee, and of hope and confidence in thy infinite mercies; of which we have ſuch ſtrong aſſurance, by his being *delivered for our offences, and raiſed*

Rom. 4. 25.

raiſed again for our juſtification. Make me more and more in love with that lowlineſs of mind, that tender and compaſſionate charity, that meekneſs, patience and forgiveneſs which ſhone in his Sufferings. And ſubdue my will ſo perfectly unto ſuch an abſolute, quiet and ready ſubmiſſion to thy holy Will in every thing; that my hope in thee may encreaſe exceedingly; *and not only ſo, but I may alſo joy in thee my God, through our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, by whom we have now received the atonement.*

Rom. 5. 11.

Hear, Good Lord, the Prayers of the whole Church, *which thou haſt purchaſed with thine own blood.* O that every Member thereof may ſerve thee purely and orderly in the Rank and Condition wherein thou haſt placed them, to their mutual benefit and comfort, and to the conviction of thoſe who are Enemies or Strangers to the Name of the Lord Jeſus; that they ſeeing our good

good works may glorifie thee our heavenly Father, and acknowledge that thou art among us of a Truth. Bleſs all the Miniſters of Religion or Juſtice; and endue them with a great love to the honour of our Saviour, and with a great zeal to make his holy Laws underſtood and obſerved. That as he *gave himſelf for his Church, that he might ſanctifie and cleanſe it with the waſhing of water by the word, and preſent it to himſelf a glorious Church, not having ſpot, or wrinkle, or any ſuch thing:* So *all that name the Name of Chriſt may depart from all iniquity*, and endeavour to be *holy and without blemiſh*, and be found of him in peace at the Day of his appearing. And in particular, I beſeech thee to repleniſh our Sovereign with a great meaſure of the Grace of thy Holy Spirit; that he may make all his Subjects joyful by his pious and prudent care, to promote their wealth, peace and godlineſs. Let thy Prieſts alſo be cloathed with

Eph. 5. 26, 27.

with righteouſneſs, and all thy Saints ſhout aloud for joy. *The Lord make them to encreaſe and abound in love one towards another, and towards all men; to the end he may eſtabliſh their hearts unblameable in holineſs, before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt with all his Saints,* 1 Theſſ. 3. 12.

Now unto him that loved us, and waſhed us from our ſins in his own blood, and hath made us Kings and Prieſts unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen. Rev. 1 5. 6.

A Pray-

A PRAYER ON ANY *SAINT's DAY.*

THOU art to be praiſed, O Lord of Heaven and Earth, in all thy works of wonder, which declare the aſtoniſhing greatneſs of thy Majeſty, Power, Wiſdom and Goodneſs, throughout the World. One generation praiſes thy Works to another, and declares thy mighty Acts; eſpecially the manifold Wiſdom of thy incomprehenſible love in the ſalvation of Mankind by Chriſt Jeſus, who hath brought us the glad tidings of peace and reconciliation with thee, and the promiſe of immortal life and glory, if we will be obedient to thee.

An innumerable company of holy Souls have in all ages ſince moſt thankfully received and acknowledged this

this thy grace and tender mercy; being obedient to the very death, and leaving us an excellent example of pure love to thee, and conſtant affection and hearty devotion, and ardent zeal for the honour of our Lord and Maſter Chriſt Jeſus. I add my poor tribute of praiſe and thanſgiving to all that hath been rendred unto thee, O God; who in the beginning *commandeſt the light to ſhine out of darkneſs, and haſt now ſhone into* the hearts of thy holy Ones, to give the light of thy Divine knowledge in the face of Jeſus Chriſt.

Thanks be to thy infinite Goodneſs as for that glorious manifeſtation of thy ſelf in our fleſh, and the eternal redemption that the Lord Jeſus obtained for us by his Blood, and the power and dominion which thou haſt given him at thy right hand after his Reſurrection from the dead, and his compaſſionate interceſſion on our behalf: ſo for all thoſe Gifts which he gave unto Men; whereby *he made*

ſome

ſome Apoſtles, ſome Prophets, ſome Evangeliſts, ſome Paſtors and Teachers. for the perfecting of the Saints, for the work of the Miniſtry, and the edifying of his Body. Bleſſing, Honour, Glory and praiſe be to thee, O Father of mercies, for all thoſe great inſtruments of the Holy Ghoſt, the illuſtrious Miniſters of thy Grace, the Ambaſſadors for Chriſt, and the bleſſed Champions of his holy Truth, who have communicated the light of thy glorious Goſpel to the World, and overcome the Kingdom of Darkneſs, *by the blood of the Lamb, and the word of their teſtimony, not loving their lives unto the death.* Rev. 12. 11.

Adored be the mightineſs of that Grace, which *out of the mouth of Babes and Sucklings ordained ſtrength.* Glory be to thee, O Chriſt, whoſe ſtrength was made perfect in weakneſs. Glory be unto thee, who didſt commit this heavenly *treaſure* 2 Cor. 2. 9. 2 Cor. 2. 9.

1 Cor. 4. 7. 2 Cor. 6. 4, 5. *ſure unto earthen veſſels; who approved themſelves the Miniſters of God in much patience in affliction, in neceſſities, in diſtreſſes, in ſtripes, in impriſonments, in toſſings to and fro, in labours, in watchings, in faſtings, that the excellency of the power might be of God, and not of Men.*

I heartily ſubmit to the power of that Divine Truth, for which *they ſuffered the loſs of all things,* Phil. 3. 8. *and counted them but dung that they might win Chriſt, and be found in him.* And I rejoice that thou haſt had ſo many faithful Servants who have loved thee, O Lord thou lover of Souls, more than their own lives; moſt earneſtly deſiring to be inſpired with the very ſame Spirit which was in them, that I may leave ſome example though never ſo ſmall, of hearty and univerſal obedience, to thoſe that ſhall come after.

Accept, good Lord, of my ſincere reſolution to be a *follower of them even*

even as they were of Christ, in pureness, in knowledge, in long-suffering, in kindness, in love unfeigned: That my rejoycing may be this, the testimony of my Conscience, that in simplicity and godly sincerity, not with fleshly wisdom but by thy grace, I have had my conversation in the World; providing for honest things, not only in the sight of our Lord, but also in the sight of all Men. Make me constant and courageous in the profession of thy Holy Truth; and to be willing *to pass through honour or dishonour, through good report or evil report* for the Lord's sake, hoping that *if the sufferings of Christ abound in me, my consolation also shall abound by Christ.*

1 Cor. 11. 1.
2 Cor. 6. 6, 7.
2 Cor. 1. 12.
2 Cor. 8. 21.
2 Cor. 1. 5.

Stir me up, I beseech thee, and quicken me that I may *shew the same diligence* that thy Saints have done, *to the full assurance of hope unto the end; that I*

Heb 6. 11, 12.

Heb. 2. 3,4,5. *may not be ſlothful, but a follower of them who through faith and patience inherit the Promiſes. How ſhall I eſcape if I neglect ſo great ſalvation, which at firſt began to be ſpoken by the Lord, and was confirmed by them that heard him, God alſo bearing them witneſs with ſigns and wonders, and with divers miracles of the Holy Ghoſt, according to his own will?* O continue the mighty aſſiſtance of that Divine power with me, that behaving my ſelf *ſo holily, juſtly,*

1 Theſ. 2. 10. 2 Theſſ. 1.7,9. *and unblameably* as they did, I may *reſt* at laſt together *with them, when our Lord Jeſus ſhall be revealed from Heaven with his mighty Angels, to be glorified in his Saints, and admired in all them that believe.*

And now preſerve me this Day from diſhonouring *that worthy name,*

Jam. 2. 7. 2 Theſ. 3.7,13. *whereby we are called; knowing how we ought to follow them, who behaved not themſelves diſorderly among thoſe that*

that believed. That by this reſt from my ordinary labours, I may not learn idleneſs, nor *grow weary of well-doing*; but be better diſpoſed in my mind by all the refreſhments of my Body, to do my Duty in the place and relations wherein thou haſt ſet me, with greater chearfulneſs, fidelity and diligence to the end of my Days. O that it may be my higheſt pleaſure to attend on thee, and praiſe thee in the aſſemblies of thy Saints. Give me ſuch a ſenſible delight and joy in reading and meditating of thy holy Word, and in the remembrance of all thy Mercies, that nothing in this World may make me forget the ſweetneſs of it: but every thing may excite me more to praiſe, extol, and magnifie thy loving kindneſs to me; and to expreſs my thankfulneſs in a free and ready obedience to thy commands; till I be made fit to be admitted into the company of the bleſſed, there to praiſe thee, World without end. *Amen.*

A PRAYER Upon the DAY of ones *BIRTH.*

O Moſt mighty Lord, the Former and Preſerver of all things: All thy works praiſe thee, and declare thy infinite Greatneſs, Wiſdom, and Bounty; and call upon us likewiſe to magnifie thy Name with our continual Praiſes and Thankſgivings. I humbly bow my ſelf before thy glorious Majeſty who inhabiteſt Eternity; acknowledging that it is but a little time ſince I was not; and that I am not gone down again into ſilence is to be aſcribed only to thy Omnipotent Goodneſs, which brought me into being, to praiſe thee among the reſt of thy Creatures.

I thank thee, O Lord, *by whom I was fearfully and wonderfully made and*

and curiouſly wrought in my Mother's Womb. Thou art he that took me thence: thou didſt make me hope when I was upon my Mother's Breaſt. By thee I have been holden up ever ſince; and I moſt carefully provided for, when I could not think at all of thy tender mercies towards me. And therefore now that I am grown to the uſe of my reaſon, *my praiſe ought to be continually of thee. O bleſs the Lord, my ſoul, and all that is within me bleſs his holy Name. Bleſs the Lord, O my ſoul, and forget not all his benefits. While I live will I praiſe the Lord; I will ſing praiſes to my God while I have any Being.*

Pſal. 139. 14, 15.

Pſal. 22. 9.

Pſal. 71. 6.

Pſal. 103. 1, 2.

Pſal. 146. 2.

Pardon, I beſeech thee, my ingratitude, in that I have no earlier remembred thee my Creator, *in whom I live and move; and who giveſt me all things richly to enjoy.* Accept of my unfeigned Reſolutions to pre-

ſerve hereafter a more grateful ſence of thy great Goodneſs to me, and to glorifie thee with my Body and with my Spirit, which are thine. Vouchſafe me the Aſſiſtance of thy heavenly Grace, that I may return them back unto thee pure and undefiled; full of wiſdom and ſpiritual underſtanding; full of love and devout affection to thee; full of all good works and the fruits of righteouſneſs, to *which thou haſt created me again by Chriſt Jeſus, that I ſhould walk in them.*

Epheſ. 2. 10.

Bleſſed be thy Name, who haſt ſent him to give me a new and better life. I thank thee for all the helps and comforts of his Religion. O that my heart may be poſſeſſed with ſuch a ſtrong belief of it, and ſuch a ſincere love to it, that I may feel indeed that I am born again, and made a new creature: meditating daily of thy mercies; breathing forth my Soul to thee, in Prayers, and Praiſes, and Thankſgivings; walking in the Spirit of *goodneſs*

neſs, righteouſneſs and truth; and proving what is acceptable to our Lord. Epheſ. 5. 9.

All the thanks and ſervices, I acknowledge, that I am able to render to thee, are nothing worth: but the longer I live, I moſt earneſtly deſire the more hearty, and the purer they may be; and the more I may be enabled to do for thy honour and glory. If thou ſuffereſt me to continue in this life another Year, O that in the concluſion of it, I may preſent my ſelf unto thee again more improved in all that is praiſe worthy. The time paſt is too much to have miſpent; O that I may ſuffer no more of my precious hours to run waſte, but that they may all be taken up, and carefully laid out in well-doing.

Help me diligently to husband ſo great a treaſure, which thou intruſteſt me withal, and to employ it in order to a bleſſed Eternity. Let not *the care of this World, and the Deceitfulneſs of Riches, and* Mark 4. 19.

the luſts of other things entring in choke thoſe good ſeeds which thou haſt ſown in my heart, *ſo that they become unfruitful*: but enable me as I grow in years to encreaſe alſo in love, *joy, peace, long ſuffering, faith, meekneſs, temperance*, and all other fruits of thy Holy Spirit.

Gal. 5. 22.

And ſince I have been thy care ſo long, *I will* ſtill *hope* in thee *continually*, that I ſhall *yet praiſe thee more and more*. Caſt *me not off* if I live to the *time of old Age, forſake me not when my ſtrength faileth. O God thou haſt taught me from my youth, and hitherto I have declared thy wondrous works. Hold me up* ſtill, *and I ſhall be ſafe. Order my ſteps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me.* That ſo *if the evil days come, and the years draw nigh, when I ſhall ſay, I have no pleaſure in them*; I may rejoyce in the remembrance of a well ſpent life, and having

Pſal. 71. 14. Pſal. 9. 17. Pſal. 119. 117, 133. Eccleſ. 12. 1.

having a good hope in thee, *the day of my death, may be better than the day of my birth.* Eccleſ. 7. 1.

O that Death may never ſurprize me, nor find me unprepared. Help me to walk alway ſo circumſpectly and to be ſo mindful of my latter end, that when Death comes, it may be no Stranger to me; but I may entertain it as an Acquaintance, and a Friend: and with the ſame chearfulneſs put off my Body, and lay it down in the Grave, that I put off my Cloaths and lay my ſelf down in my Bed. I commit my ſelf intirely to thee, both now and ever; waiting for thy Mercy in Chriſt Jeſus, at that great Day, when thou ſhalt awake us out of the Duſt. O that I may then be numbred among the Juſt, and ſtand at the right hand of my Saviour, and hear that joyful voice, *Come ye bleſſed of my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the World.* Matth. 25. 34. Amen.

THAT we may be ſtedfaſt, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, here follow particular Prayers for that Grace; and, in caſe of any failing in our Duty, for repentance, and pardon, and for an heart truly ſenſible of the Divine Goodneſs, and more conſiderate and careful for the time to come.

A PRAYER FOR *RESOLUTION* IN WELL-DOING.

O Moſt bleſſed God, the Fountain of Wiſdom, Power, Strength, and all other Perfections: from whoſe Bounty, I have formerly received, and at preſent enjoy innumerable Bleſſings; and have no hope for the future, but what ariſes from the ſame everlaſting Spring of all good which is never weary of deriving its benefits unto us. I ought in a ſence of my intire dependance upon thee, to be very humble; very thankful; exceeding ſolicitous for thy favour, and deſirous of thy good Will; ſorrowful

for

for my neglects of thee; aſhamed of the pitiful returns I have made to thee; and moſt peremptorily reſolved, and zealouſly bent to approve my ſelf hereafter to thy divine Majeſty, in all well-doing.

Accordingly I am now proſtrate before thee, to implore the continued powerful preſence of that infinite Grace, to which I owe theſe holy thoughts that are in my mind, and by which alone I can hope to perform and accompliſh them. Poſſeſs me, O God, with ſuch a full and lively ſenſe of thy undeſerved and unwearied love and kindneſs to me, in paſſing by ſo much ingratitude, and ſo many tranſgreſſions; in laying on me ſuch ſtrong and manifold obligations to be happy by obeying thee, and in affording me ſuch powerful aſſiſtances to attain that happineſs; that I may love thee proportionably with a more conſtant and ſtedfaſt affection, and feel an unalterable will ſettled in me, to do the Duty thou requireſt of me,

into

into whatſoever ſtate and condition of Life thou ſhalt be pleaſed to diſpoſe me.

When we have loved thee all that we can, I am ſenſible we have loved thee but a little; becauſe we and all that we can do are ſo inconſiderable. How ſmall a thing then is it, how poor and contemptible, that we return unto thee; when we love thee not ſo much as we are able! O bleſſed God, cauſe ſuch a delightful ſenſe of thy Goodneſs to fall upon my heart, and to abide with me, that all the powers of my Soul may ſtrain themſelves to love thee, and unite themſelves unto thee, in an unalterable choice of thy Will, to be the ſole Governour of all my deſigns, and deſires, and actions throughout the whole courſe of my life. I love my ſelf moſt, I ſee when I love thee intirely; and ſerve my ſelf, by doing thee all faithful ſervice. In union with thee I am at reſt and peace; and in conſtant adherence to thee conſiſts my eternal ſafety and ſecurity.

To

To thee therefore, with the deliberate and full conſent of my will, I devote my ſelf; reſolving to love and ſerve thee, with all my Heart, and with all my Soul, and with all my Strength. I vow unto thee, as I have done often, all ſincere Obedience; and proteſt againſt every thing that is contrary to thy holy commands, as contrary alſo to my own ſenſe and judgment, to my moſt ſober and ſerious thoughts, and to my moſt adviſed counſels and reſolutions. They all acknowledge how juſt and reaſonable, how good and pleaſant, how profitable and beneficial, how honourable and glorious it is to be a Doer of thy Will, which beſides the preſent contentment and ſatisfaction of it, hath a great recompence of reward.

O preſerve in my mind a conſtant remembrance, how dearly I am bought by the precious Blood of thy Son Chriſt; how early I was dedicated to thy Service; how often I have ſince

ſince found abundant cauſe to determine I would be thine; how I have condemned my ſelf for the breach of thoſe holy purpoſes, and what great ſatisfaction of mind I have had in the keeping of thy Commandments: That ſo I may never wilfully offend againſt ſo many forcible reaſons obliging me to my Duty; but be ſwayed by them, notwithſtanding all the temptations of the World, the Fleſh or the Devil, to perſevere in a reſolved obedience to thee for ever.

And by the power of thy Holy Spirit, I beſeech thee to make them clearer, ſtronger and more effectual; that I may have the ſame thoughts, paſſions, inclinations and purpoſes now, which I ſhall be apt to have when I come to die. For which end, help me often to place my ſelf before thy Judgment-ſeat, and to conſider that I muſt give an account for all that I have received; for thy holy Goſpel; for thy Divine Inſpirations; for the counſels and exhortations of thy Miniſters

for

for all the means and helps of growing better, and for all the encouragements I have even from the good things of this life which thy Bounty beſtows upon me. That by a careful preparation for ſuch a reckoning, I may be kept cloſe and ſtedfaſt to my Duty; in hope of that exceeding glorious reward, which our Lord will beſtow upon all his faithful Servants, at the Day of his Appearing. *Amen.*

Another to the ſame effect.

O Moſt great and glorious Majeſty of Heaven and Earth: who art of unſpotted purity, and in whom there is not the leaſt ſhadow of change. I know that all the reſolutions of thy Wiſdom are moſt juſt and equal; and I cannot chuſe when I am in my right mind, to be guided by any thing elſe but thy holy Will: who deſigneſt, I ſee, in all the revelations thou haſt made of thy ſelf to

us,

us, to make us like to thy own moſt bleſſed Nature. I do here own and acknowledge moſt heartily the righteouſneſs and goodneſs of all thy Laws; I admire the lovelineſs of thy Image in wiſdom, righteouſneſs and true holineſs; I loath my own deformity whilſt I am unlike to thee. I implore thy renewing Grace as the greateſt Bleſſing I can receive from thee; and I bind my ſelf to the faithful improvement of it, as the weightieſt employment of my life.

I am abundantly ſatisfied in the declaration thou haſt made of thy gracious purpoſes towards us. I renounce all thoughts and deſires that are contrary thereunto; and reſolve that holineſs and eternal life ſhall be my deſign and ſtudy. I expect no pardon, O my God, but in ways of ſobriety, righteouſneſs and godlineſs. I hope for a bleſſed immortality, only by patient continuance in well doing. I conſent to every part of thy holy Goſpel; and add my teſtimony

to

to the truth of its words, *that none of thy commandments are grievous; but thy yoke is eaſie, and thy burthen light.* I hope, O Lord, by thy Grace I ſhall never contradict my ſelf, by diſowning in my practice, theſe free and ſerious Profeſſions: But that I ſhall every Day ſo call to mind my own proteſtations and reſolutions, as to continue with an unwearied diligence in ſtedfaſt obedience to thy commands, and to grow ſtill ſtronger in the Grace of the Lord Jeſus.

O that every ſuch Addreſs as this unto thy Divine Majeſty, may leave a greater ſenſe of thee, and of my Duty, and of my happineſs, and of my manifold obligations and repeated promiſes upon my heart. That I may always go out of thy preſence with my mind more towards Heaven; with lower thoughts of all the enjoyments of this life; with a greater reliſh of piety and holineſs; and more paſſionate deſires to become every way ſuch as thou canſt approve, and love

love, and delight in for ever. And aſſiſt me, I humbly beſeech thee, ſo conſtantly from above, that whatſoever good thoughts are at any time in my mind, they may grow to fixed Principles: and all heavenly affections may become a new nature, and the conſtant temper of my Spirit: and all my purpoſes and reſolutions may advance into a ſerious practice and exerciſe of godlineſs: and all the actions of an holy life may grow more free, cheerful, vigorous and full of delight, till they be compleated in everlaſting bliſs, through Chriſt Jeſus. *Amen.*

A PRAY-

A PRAYER AFTER *Relapſe* into any *Sin*.

I Caſt down my ſelf before thee, O moſt holy Lord of Heaven and Earth, with an humble, ſorrowful and penitent heart, adoring thy infinite Grace, which ſuffers ſuch a vile and miſerable Sinner to approach into thy preſence. I am thine indeed, dedicated long ago to thy Service, which I have ſince choſen, as the moſt perfect freedom; But ſo much the greater reaſon I have to be abaſhed before thee, and to be aſtoniſhed at thy forbearing mercy; which prolongs the life of ſuch an one as I am, who have been ſo falſe to thee, and to my own reſolutions. I remember in

in the bitterneſs of my Soul, how many obligations thou haſt laid upon me to obſerve and obey thee; how often I have acknowledged the juſtice and goodneſs of thy precepts; and how frequently I have promiſed and vowed to conform my ſelf unto them; and what great and precious promiſes thou haſt made to me of invaluable Bleſſings: And yet, Wretch that I am, I have been drawn aſide from thy ways by eaſie and ſlight temptations; and for a ſmall and momentany pleaſure or gain, * have ventured the loſs of thy favour, which is better than life it ſelf.

* *Here mention the particular ſin.*

O God, that thou ſhouldeſt have patience with ſo perfidious, ſo ungrateful, ſo ſenſeleſs a Creature as I am! That thou ſhouldeſt permit me to ſee the light of the Sun, and haſt not condemned me to utter darkneſs in weeping, wailing, and gnaſhing of teeth! but that thou giveſt me leave to look towards Heaven, and

that I have an heart to ſpeak unto thee, and ſtill may call thee Father, ſaying, *Father, I have ſinned againſt thee, and am no more worthy to be called thy Son.* O the Riches! O the unſearchable Riches of thy Grace! I can never ſufficiently admire thy exceeding great long-ſuffering towards me in Chriſt Jeſus; nor ſufficiently abhor and loath my ſelf for my foul revolt from thee, who art ſo kind and gracious; eſpecially if I ſhould ſtill continue to abuſe ſuch tender mercy and compaſſion towards me. Tribulation and anguiſh, indignation and wrath, I acknowledge, is the due portion of thoſe that do evil: and if thou ſhouldeſt abandon me, and caſt me out of thy ſight, I muſt confeſs that thou art righteous, and that I reap but the fruit of my own ways, and ſuffer the deſerved puniſhment of my late iniquity.

But thou, O God, delighteſt in mercy, and *there is forgiveneſs with thee, that thou mayeſt*

Pſal. 130. 4.

mayſt be feared. Thou haſt ſworn that thou deſireſt not the Death of a Sinner; but rather that he ſhould return and live; And haſt ſent thy Son Jeſus, with the moſt endearing Arguments of the greateſt love, to perſwade us to return unto our Duty. Behold, O Lord, I return with grief and affliction of Spirit that I have offended thee; deteſting the thoughts of doing the like again, and reſolving to be more careful and diligent, and circumſpect for the time to come. O let me live to the praiſe of thy Omnipotent Grace, enabling me to perform theſe reſolutions in a more ſtrict and exact obedience to thy holy commands, the reſt of my days. Ezek. 18. 32.

Mercy, mercy, I moſt earneſtly beg, O Father of mercies, for the ſake of him that died for me; not merely for the Pardon of my ſins, but for a Divine Power to enable me to ſubdue them. I deſire not thy infinite Goodneſs to bear me out in rebellion againſt

againſt thy righteouſneſs, purity and truth; but that by thy Goodneſs I may be Partaker of them; that my repentance may be accepted; and that it may be hearty and ſtedfaſt, never to be repented of. I deſire no peace, quiet and eaſe in my heart, but in a conſtant and reſolute oppoſition, of all the temptations of the World, the Fleſh and the Devil; and in the hope I have, that through thy gracious aſſiſtance it ſhall be victorious.

O ſettle me, I beſeech thee, in this holy diſpoſition, that I may preſerve an entire friendſhip with thee hereafter, by an happy agreement with thy will and pleaſure in every thing. And for that end make me *ſtrong in the Lord, and in the power of his might*: That being ſenſible of my own great weakneſs, I may more earneſtly depend upon thy aid from above, by an humble and vigorous Faith in thy Almighty Goodneſs. Maintain ſuch a clear light in my mind, that may keep

Epheſ. 6. 10.

keep me from being deceived with the vain ſhadows and empty appearances of ſatisfactory pleaſure in any thing of this World. Fortifie my will with the power of thy Divine Love, that may overcome all ſenſual affections that ariſe in me at any time againſt thy ſacred commands. And poſſeſs me with ſuch a lively hope of thoſe good things which Chriſt hath promiſed in the other life, that may make me active and zealous, ſtedfaſt and unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that my labour ſhall not be in vain in the Lord.

Thou knoweſt the Secrets of all hearts; let thy mercy, O Lord, be upon me, according as I deliberately and ſincerely chuſe to *cleave unto thee with purpoſe of heart. O caſt me not away from thy preſence; and take not thy holy Spirit from me. But hide thy face from my ſins; and blot out all mine iniquities. Create in me a clean*

Acts 11. 23. Pſal. 51. 9, 10, 11.

heart, O God, and renew a conſtant ſpirit in me. Make my heart to be ſound in thy Statutes, that I may never be aſhamed. Keep back thy Servant alſo from preſumptuous ſins; let them not have dominion over me; Then ſhall I be upright, and I ſhall be innocent from the great tranſgreſſion. The words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart ſhall be accepted in thy ſight, O Lord, my ſtrength and my Redeemer. Amen, Amen.

Pſal. 119. 80.
Pſal. 19. 13, 14.

A THANKSGIVING TO THE Divine Goodneſs FOR Any hope of a PARDON After ſuch RELAPSE.

O Eternally moſt bleſſed God: the Fountain of all good; from whence all Creatures derive whatſoever they enjoy. They are all poor and indigent things, full of neceſſities and wants, which are continually ſupplied out of thy fullneſs. But the wants of our Souls are the moſt lamentable: becauſe, beſides the poverty of Creatures, we have made a

great many needs to our ſelves by our wilful departure from thee, in whom we live, and move, and have our being. We ſtand in need of thy Pardon, of thy converting Grace, and the greater ſupplies of thy Holy Spirit; which we know not how with any confidence to expect. But that all theſe wants are not too big for thy infinite Goodneſs to relieve; and that thou haſt been pleaſed moſt compaſſionately to conſider our miſerable condition, in ſending Chriſt Jeſus into the World, and filling him with all the Treaſures of thy Grace and Mercy, that he might diſpence them to us, according to our ſeveral neceſſities.

O how excellent isthy loving kindneſs, O God! how ſurpaſſing is thy love! that will paſs by the inſolent offences of thy Creatures againſt thy high Authority, and Sovereign Goodneſs; and not let them eternally periſh without a remedy, in that forlorn condition into which they have brought themſelves? Bleſſed, for

ever

ever bleſſed be thy ſparing Mercy, which hath *delivered Chriſt Jeſus for our offences*; and teſtified thy acceptance of his Sacrifice of himſelf, by *raiſing him again for our juſtification.* Bleſſed be thy Name for the gracious declaration which thou haſt made, *That if any man ſin we have an Advocate with thee, Chriſt Jeſus the righteous, who is the propitiation for our ſins.* 1 John 2. 1, 2. I moſt thankfully receive theſe glad tidings, *which are worthy of all acceptation, that Jeſus Chriſt came into the World to ſave Sinners.* 1 Tim. 1. 15. Thanks be to thy tender mercy which hath reſtored us to a poſſibility of recovering thy Grace and favour. The ſmalleſt hope of it I acknowledge, is more valuable than the greateſt abundance of all the enjoyments and pleaſures of this preſent life.

What praiſe therefore, what love, what obedience am I bound to render unto thee, who haſt given me

ſuch a good hope of peace and reconciliation with thee; and thereby delivered me from the horror of my own guilty mind, remembring that I have adventured to oppoſe my will to thine; I ought for ever with the moſt zealous devotion of a grateful and obedient heart to admire and ſtand amazed at thy inconceiveable Grace, which will not ſtrictly mark what is done amiſs; but accept of our repentance and amendment, inſtead of an intire and conſtant performance of our Duty to thee. *O the heighth, the depth, the length and the breadth, of thy love in Chriſt Jeſus!* which is the ſatisfaction of our heart, and the joy of our lives; which would otherwiſe be intolerably grievous and burthenſome to us, whilſt we remember that we are Sinners.

Fill me, O Lord, with a moſt ardent love to thee, now that I here offer up my ſelf, in truth and ſincerity of heart, to be wholly diſpoſed by thee. Behold, O Lord, my will

lies

lies at thy feet: I would have no will of my own, but desire only that thy will may be done. And fill me with an holy fear of thee, that thy indulgent mercy may not make me remiss, and negligent, and presumptuous again to offend thee: but a perpetual sense of my new obligations to thee, in reviving my hopes, which I had forfeited, in thee may render me more watchful, more diligent, more earnest and solicitous, more humble and distrustful of my self, and more fervent to implore the powerful succours of thy Divine Grace.

O that it may be as natural to me to pray to thee, as it is to breathe. And thou, *who fillest the hungry with good things*, pour into me life, and strength, and vigour; and in a constant dependance on thee, and hearty endeavour to do thy will. *Strengthen me with might by thy Spirit in the inner man*: That notwithstanding the strongest temptations, wherewith I may be as-

Ephes. 3. 16.

ſaulted, and notwithſtanding the weakneſs and feebleneſs of my own Spirit to reſiſt them, I may perſevere courageouſly in well-doing unto the end; and finiſh my courſe with joy; and lay my ſelf down to reſt in an holy hope, that I ſhall enter into a ſtate of ſafety and ſecurity from all danger, and remain for ever in the joy of our Lord, *Amen.*

A Prayer for the Divine Grace.

O Moſt bleſſed God, the high and mighty One, who inhabiteſt Eternity; and art what thou always waſt, and ever wilt be, the moſt perfect Power, Wiſdom, Goodneſs and Truth; the Fountain of all the perfections that are in us, we ought to addreſs our ſelves to thee in the Greateſt humility of Spirit; having nothing to preſent thee withal which we can call our own; and being unable by all our righteouſneſs to profit thee, who

who ſtandeſt in need of none of thy Creatures. But alas! O Lord, we have robbed thee of that which we have received from thee; and are ſo far from giving thee any thing of ours, that we have not returned to thee that which is thine.

O the miſerable condition therefore into which we have brought our ſelves! who are not ſo much as fit to receive any more from thy Divine Bounty; and which is worſe, have been too unwilling to partake of thy favours! O thy infinite love in Chriſt Jeſus, which hath beſtowed the richeſt Grace upon us, whether we would or no! Thou haſt honoured our nature with thy Divine Preſence, dwelling in it. Thou haſt delivered him to die for our ſins. Thou haſt given us a bleſſed hope in thee, by his Reſurrection from the dead. Thou haſt *ſent him to bleſs us, in turning every one of us from our iniquities*; And given him all power in Heaven and Earth; that

Acts 3. 26.

he may ſuccour and ſtrengthen us when we are tempted, and enable us to overcome.

I thank thee with all my Soul, for this abundant Grace, ſo freely and undeſired, conferred upon us. Which encourages me to hope in thee, now that thou inclineſt my heart towards thee, and haſt given me a thankful ſenſe of thy love, and ſome will to obey thee, and holy reſolutions to cleave unto thee in well-doing; that thou wilt not deny me the conſtant aſſiſtance of that good Spirit which our Saviour hath bid us ask of thee, to ſtrengthen, confirm and ſettle what thou haſt begun to do for me, in a perfect love and ſtedfaſt obedience to all thy holy commands.

O God of all Grace and might, the root of our life, and power and ſtrength; without whom all good deſires and purpoſes wither and die; withdraw not the ſweet influences of thy Holy Spirit from thy unworthy Servant, who intirely confides in thee, and

and hath no hope but in thy infinite Mercies. Remember not againſt me former iniquities; let not my late back-ſliding and return to folly cut me off from the communication of thy Grace; which is wont to preſs into thoſe Souls that open themſelves to receive it, and ſeriouſly thirſt after it. My Soul thirſteth for thee, O God; that I may be more firmly united to thee, and be made more exactly like thee, in unchangeable righteouſneſs, purity and goodneſs.

Cheriſh and increaſe the moſt faint but ſincere motions, which thou ſeeſt in me towards a more compleat participation of thee. And eſpecially preſerve in me a full confidence in thy Almighty Love, as ready to accompliſh the deſires and endeavours of all thoſe, who yield up themſelves unto it, in hearty willingneſs to be governed by it. That being born up by this ſtrong hope in thee, my helper, and exceeding great reward, no temptation may be able to prevail over me:

but

but I may walk ſtedfaſtly and evenly with thee; in all conditions and circumſtances of life. Make me feel ſo much of the comfort of this faith, and love, and hope, and obedience, reviving me to a delightful ſenſe of a bleſſed Immortality; that whatſoever allurements or diſcouragements I meet withal in this World, they may only provoke me to give a greater proof of all theſe in a conſtant adherence to my Duty; and occaſion the encreaſe of my unſpeakable joy and ſatisfaction.

And enlarge my heart thereby to ſuch a meaſure of Chriſtian piety, that I may not only be innocent and harmleſs, but forward alſo to do us good; and not only be contented with my Portion, but rejoyce in our Lord alway: and rejoyce not only to do thy will, but to ſuffer alſo for righteouſneſs ſake, knowing that great ſhall be my reward in Heaven. Bleſs my endeavours to add *to faith, vertue; and to vertue, knowledge, and to knowledge,*

ledge, temperance; and to temperance, patience; and to patience, godlineſs; and to godlineſs, brotherly kindneſs; and to brotherly kindneſs, charity: That doing theſe things, I may never fall; But an entrance may be miniſtred to me abundantly, into the everlaſting Kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jeſus Chriſt. Amen.

2 Pet. 1. 5, 6, 7, 10, 11.

A ſhort Prayer when any man's occaſions call him to a place where he fears danger.

O Almighty God; who art every where, and more eſpecially preſent to thoſe Souls that look up unto thee, with an high eſteem of thy favour and grace, and with hearty deſires to continue in thy love by patient continuance in well-doing. In this humble faith in thy Divine Goodneſs, and with a due fear and reverence of thy glorious Majeſty, I proſtrate my Soul and Body before thee;

to

to put my ſelf into thy moſt gracious protection, and to beg the powerful aſſiſtance of thy holy Spirit, to preſerve me whereſoever I am, in a dutiful obſervance of all thy *holy Commands.*

I am ſenſible, O Lord, that we live in a world of temptations, and that our nature is weak, and ready to yield to them; and that our affections are apt to wander after vanity, and that ſudden paſſions oftentimes tranſport us from our duty. But I know withal, that a ſenſe of thy all-ſeeing eye, and of the life to come and of the rewards and puniſhments which thou wilt render according to our works; will certainly over-awe all ſinful motions in me, and break the force of the ſtrongeſt temptations that aſſault me. And therefore, the greater the danger is the more earneſtly I ſue unto thee, to be poſſeſſed with a piercing ſenſe, and lively remembrance of theſe things, which may abide with me alway; and eſpecially this day, in every place and company into which I ſhall come.

O

O that I may not be ſo forgetful of thee, and of mine own good, as for the ſmall and momentany pleaſures of this world, to hazard the loſs of thoſe great and eternal joys, which we expect in the other life. But enable me, O moſt gracious God, ſo to behave my ſelf, that when I have paſſed through all the employments and accaſions of this day, I may bring my ſelf back again into thy preſence, ſo pure and undefiled; that I may begin thoſe joys that are to come, in cheerful praiſes of thee; and in a comfortable ſenſe that thou dwelleſt in me, and art leading me by thy holy Spirit to immortal happineſs, through Chriſt Jeſus. *Amen.*

A Prayer for ſerious and effectual conſideration; the better to eſtabliſh all good reſolutions.

O Moſt glorious Majeſty of Heaven and Earth: who art above the higheſt of all our thoughts, and much

much more beyond all our words. But that thou art great and mighty, we know by thy works of wonder which we behold. And the admirable diſpoſure and government of all things tell us that thou art infinitely wiſe and knoweſt all things. We ſee how good thou art, by the large proviſion which thou haſt made for all thy creatures every where. Thy Precepts teach us how juſt and holy thou art; and by thy Promiſes we know that thou art gracious and bountiful; and by thy threatnings that thou hateſt iniquity; and by thy executing of both, that thou art faithful and true, and wilt ſave the godly and puniſh evil doers.

When we conſider all this, we may juſtly wonder at our ſelves, that we ſhould not fear thee, and reverence thee, and love thee, and ſeek thy love and favour above all things; by ſtudying to pleaſe thee in univerſal obedience to thy bleſſed will; which deſigns to employ thy Almighty

Pow-

Power to make us ſo great, ſo happy, and ſo glorious. And there is no other reaſon, I ſee, why we are no better affected towards thee, but becauſe our thoughts are exceeding ſhort, and light and vain; and we ſo ſeldom conſider and deeply ponder, what we confeſs, thou art, and in what relation we ſtand to thy Divine Majeſty.

Vouchſafe therefore, O God of all grace, to awaken my mind to a more lively and ſtedfaſt remembrance of thee, my Creator, my Redeemer, my daily Benefactor, and my moſt loving and tender hearted Father, in Chriſt Jeſus. O that no day may paſs without ſome ſerious and conſiderate thoughts of thoſe things, which ſo nearly concern my everlaſting welfare. And by thy powerful preſence with me, enlighten my mind to a clearer ſenſe of them. Quicken and enliven that ſenſe, I humbly beſeech thee, and make it ſo ſtrong and moving; that it may preſs upon my heart

and

and affections, till it overcome me to ſurrender Soul and Body abſolutely unto thee.

Pardon all my former neglects of thee; and let them not hinder the influences of thy holy Spirit upon me, by which I may be changed into thy image and likeneſs. Sanctifie my underſtanding, that I may rightly conceive thy holy Truths, and fully apprehend them. Sanctifie my memory, that I may keep in mind all that I know of thee, and of thy bleſſed Will revealed to us in Chriſt Jeſus. Sanctifie my will, that I may chearfully embrace, and entirely conſent to thine, in all things. And ſanctifie all my affections, that I may love thee with all my heart, and ſoul, and ſtrength; and delight in thee more than in all the contentments of this life; and hope more for thy glory, than all worldly preferments; and fear thee more than the greateſt Potentate upon earth; and take more care for my ſoul and eternal things,

than

than for this body and all its momentany pleaſures; and hate all ſin more than my greateſt enemies; yea, help me to love mine enemies; to do good to them that do evil to me; to bleſs them that curſe me, and pray for them that deſpitefully uſe me.

For which end, ſanctifie all my Paſſions; that I may be angry at nothing ſo much, as that I have diſpleaſed thee; and in an holy indignation at my ſelf, and in revenge of my former negligence and diſobedience, may be more ſtrict and ſevere in the performance of all my duty for the time to come. Sanctifie me throughout in body as well as ſpirit; that I may poſſeſs it in holineſs and honour: and all my ſenſes may adminiſter occaſions to my mind, to remember thee, to praiſe thee and to bleſs thee, who every way ſo liberally provideſt for me. Sanctifie all my converſation with others, and all the employments of this life; that I may ſtill be heavenly minded, and have a reſpect to

my

my laſt end, and everlaſting good. Sanctifie all the Bleſſings of health, and ſtrength, and peace, and plenty, and friends; yea, and all the croſſes and afflictions of this life; that they may make me more ſerious and conſiderate, and help more perfectly to purifie my ſpirit, and diſpoſe me for the happineſs of the other world.

Raiſe me, O Lord, to ſuch an exceeding great delight in theſe holy thoughts and meditations; and entertain me with ſuch a bliſsful ſenſe of thee, when I addreſs my ſelf unto thee, that I may rather be unwilling to depart from thy preſence, than weary of converſing with thee. And when I return to my other employments again, O that my mind may be often looking back towards thee, my God, my exceeding joy; deſirous to be always with thee, and longing to enjoy thee in unchangeable love and perfect likeneſs to thee: Unto which I moſt humbly beſeech thee to bring me, for thy mercies ſake declared in

Chriſt

Chriſt Jeſus, who lives for ever to make interceſſion for us. *Amen.*

THE better to preſerve a conſtant ſenſe of God in the mind, and pious diſpoſitions in the heart: Here follow certain ſhort Ejaculations (as we are wont to call them) in which, upon ſeveral occaſions, any man may lift up his Soul to God: and if he do it fervently, may find it of great effect.

EJACULATIONS.

When he awakes in the Morning he may ſay,

I LAID me down and ſlept, I waked for the Lord ſuſtained me, Pſal. 3. 5. *How precious alſo are thy thoughts unto me, O God? how great is the ſum of them? if I would count them, they are more in number than the ſand? when I wake, I am ſtill with thee,* Pſal. 139. 17, 18.

When

When he is dreſſing himſelf,

O how beautiful is the ornament of a pure, humble, meek, patient and charitable ſpirit! Help me, O God, to *put on the Lord Jeſus*, in theſe and all other Vertues.

When he goes into the Church, or his Cloſet.

My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed; I will ſing and give praiſe, Pſal. 57. 7.

When he begins any buſineſs

My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth, Pſal. 121. 2.

The Lord Jeſus Chriſt be with my ſpirit, 2 Tim. 4. 22.

When he goes forth of his doors.

Hold thou up my goings in thy paths, that my footſteps ſlip not, Pſal. 17. 5.

Order my ſteps in thy word: and let not mine iniquity have dominion over me, 119. 133. *Give thy Angels charge over me, to keep me in all my ways*, 91. 11.

When

When he walks abroad, and beholds all things round about him, he may ſay as it is, *Pſal.* 104. 24.

O Lord, how manifold are thy works! in wiſdom haſt thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches, &c.

At Meals.

O taſte and ſee that the Lord is good. He filleth our hearts with food and gladneſs, Pſal. 24. 8. Acts 14. 17.

Bleſſed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits, Pſal. 68. 19.

At Candle-light.

Lord, lift thou up the light of thy countenance upon us, Pſal. 4. 6. Or,

God be merciful unto us, and bleſs us, and cauſe his face to ſhine upon us, Pſal. 67. 1.

When he goes to Bed.

I will both lay me down in peace and ſleep: for thou, Lord, only makeſt me dwell in ſafety, Pſal. 4. 8.

He that keepeth me doth not ſlumber. The Lord is my keeper: The Lord is my defence, who neither ſlumbers, nor ſleeps, Pſal. 121. 4, 5.

In

In the Night-ſeaſon.

O happy ſouls, that *reſt not day nor night, ſaying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, which is, and is to come!* Rev. 4. 8.

O great God! the *darkneſs hideth not from thee; but the night ſhineth as the day: the darkneſs and the light are both alike to thee,* Pſal. 139. 12.

My ſoul ſhall be ſatisfied as with marrow and fatneſs; and my mouth ſhall praiſe thee with joyful lips: when I remember thee upon my bed, and meditate on thee in the night-watches. Becauſe thou haſt been my help; therefore in the ſhadow of thy wings will I rejoyce, Pſal. 63. 5, 6, 7.

On a Sick-bed, or in other affliction.

It is the Lord, let him do what ſeemeth him good, 1 Sam. 3. 18.

It is good that a Man ſhould both hope, and quietly wait for the ſalvation of the Lord, Lam. 3. 26.

Bleſſed be the Lord for my long continued health, and all his other benefits. Let the remembrance of

thy

thy former mercies refreſh my ſoul, and encourage my hope, and ſtrengthen my patience, with quiet reſignation of my ſelf to thy good pleaſure.

At the point of Death.

I have waited for thy Salvation, O Lord, Gen. 49. 18.

Into thy hand, O Father I commend my ſelf, who breathedſt into me the breath of life. *Lord Jeſus receive my ſpirit*, which thou haſt redeemed by thy precious blood, and ſanctified by the Holy Ghoſt.

When he hears a paſſing-bell.

Verily every man at his beſt ſtate is altogether Vanity, Pſal. 39. 5.

O teach me ſo to number my days, that I may apply my heart unto wiſdom, Pſal. 90. 12.

In a time of plague.

O Lord, correct us, but with judgment: not in thine anger leſt thou bring us to nothing, Jer. 10. 24.

In time of War.

O Lord, ariſe, help us and deliver us for thy Names ſake.

From our enemies defend us, O Chriſt. Graciouſly look upon our affliction.

King *Aſa* cried unto God in this manner, when he was going to give battle to a million of enemies.

Lord, it is nothing with thee to help whether with many or with them that have no power. Help us, O Lord our God, for we reſt on thee, and in thy Name go againſt this multitude, 2 Chron. 14. 11.

In any other publick Calamity.

Spare thy people, O Lord, and give not thy heritage to reproach, Joel 2. 17.

A great Offender may often ſay with the Prodigal.

Father I have ſinned againſt thee, and am no more worthy to be called thy ſon. And with the Publican.

God be merciful to me a ſinner.

After any mercy received.

What ſhall I render unto the Lord for

for all the benefits that he hath done unto me? Pſal. 116. 12.

Every day will I give thanks unto thee, and praiſe thy name for ever and ever. Pſal. 145. 1.

I ſhall mention no more, becauſe I would not invite the Reader to make this ſort of Prayer too common. For by that means, it will be in danger to grow cold, and loſe its force and efficacy, by growing faſhionable. To that purpoſe I remember a devout Prelate of our own (Biſhop *Hall*) ſomewhere delivers his judgment about this matter. But if any one find that he can with profit turn his thoughts this way, upon all occaſions, he may eaſily invent more Ejaculations. *The meaſure of them is,* (as that forenamed Perſon ſpeaks) *to preſerve our hearts in a conſtant, tender and godly diſpoſition; which ſhall be further actuated upon all opportunities, by the exerciſe of our more enlarged and fixed devotions.*

A Prayer for Submiſſion *to God, in caſe of any great loſs in a man's Eſtate, Relations or Friends.*

O Moſt Holy, holy, holy; the Supreme Lord and Governour of the world: who art unſearchable in thy Wiſdom, unſpotted in thy Juſtice, and irreſiſtible in thy power; whoſe goodneſs hath no bounds, but what thy wiſe and holy will gives unto it; and art immutable in theſe and all other perfections, the great God moſt bleſſed for ever. It is moſt reaſonable and agreeable to our nature, moſt profitable and convenient to our intereſt, moſt ſatisfactory and ſuitable to our wiſeſt choice, by an abſolute and quiet ſubmiſſion in all things to thy Sovereign Wiſdom, Juſtice and Goodneſs, to declare our fear and reverence of thee: our unfeigned love to thee, and deſires to pleaſe thee; our truſt and confidence in thee; and ready diſpoſition to obey thee.

Thou art too great, I know, to delight

delight in grieving us thy poor creatures; and haſt other ways of procuring thy own pleaſure, than by our miſery, pain and torment. And therefore, in a full perſwaſion of thy unerring Providence over us, and infinite Charity towards us, I here moſt humbly and freely reſign all my thoughts and deſires unto thee: ſubmitting my ſelf entirely to thy Orders, and reſolving by thy gracious aſſiſtance to reſt contented with whatſoever thou appointeſt. *The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; bleſſed be the Name of the Lord.* Job 1. 21. Bleſſed be thy Name, who haſt continued to me ſo long, the enjoyment of ſo many good things. Bleſſed be thy Name, that I had any thing to part withal, whereby I may teſtifie my faith in thee, and affection to thee. Bleſſed be thy Name, that I have any of the comforts of this life ſtill remaining, and that they are not all taken away from me. I have nothing too great,

or too dear to be reſigned to thee: from whoſe bounty I received all I have; and who art my beſt, and my eternal friend.

O that no repining thoughts may ariſe in my heart, to diſorder and diſcompoſe my duty towards thee, or towards my neighbour. But help me rather to think wherein I have offended thee, and carefully to amend it; to place my affections more ſtedfaſtly on thoſe unmoveable things which are above; to lay up my treaſure and hope in Heaven; and to prepare my ſelf by perfecting my purity, and thankfulneſs, and patience, and all other vertues, to be tranſlated thither, where our life is hid in thee with Chriſt Jeſus.

I thank thee, O Father of Mercies, that thou haſt given us ſuch everlaſting conſolation, through thy Grace, in him. Every day will I bleſs thee, and I will praiſe thy Name for ever and ever; for thoſe exceeding great and precious promiſes which thou haſt

haſt given us to ſupport and comfort us, in all the troubles of this life. Increaſe my faith, ſtrengthen and confirm my hope; lift up my ſpirit continually to that bleſſed place where Jeſus is; that I may rejoice in hope of that immortal life, when all tears ſhall be wiped from our eyes, and there ſhall be no ſighing nor ſorrow any more; but [we* who are now parted aſunder] ſhall meet together to acknowledge, with eternal praiſes, thy wiſe and merciful providence; which by ways moſt contrary to our deſires, hath brought us to endleſs and undiſturbed bliſs.

* *This clauſe to be uſed only in the loſs of Friends or Relations.*

Thou knoweſt, O Lord, the weakneſs and frailty of our nature, and therefore vouchſafe me the conſtant aſſiſtance of thy good Spirit, (for which I depend upon thee) to enable me to continue in this humble, quiet and dutiful ſubmiſſion to thee: waiting for that peaceable and joyful re-

poſe, in the eternal reſt which thou haſt prepared for thy People, through thy mercies in Chriſt Jeſus: By whom all glory, honour, love and obedience be rendred to thee, by me and all mankind, both now and for ever. *Amen.*

A Prayer which a pious Soul may uſe, that is full of doubts, and much troubled in mind.

2 Cor. 1. 3. O Lord, the *Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort.* I acknowledge and adore thy eternal Power, Wiſdom and Goodneſs. I render thee my moſt hearty thanks for all the benefits thou haſt freely beſtowed on me, from my firſt coming into the World until this time. *Many, O Lord my God, are thy wonderful works, which thou haſt done, and thy thoughts, which are to us-ward, they cannot be reckoned up in order unto thee: if I would declare and ſpeak of*

Pſal. 40. 5.

of them, they are more than can be numbred. Above all I bleſs thee for that great demonſtration of thy love and good-will to mankind in Chriſt Jeſus, whom thou haſt ſent into the world to ſave ſinners: and for bringing me to the clear knowledge of him, faith in him, and ſome love, I hope towards him, and unfeigned affection to thy holy will, declared to us in his bleſſed Goſpel.

O God, thou haſt taught me from my youth up, and hitherto been marvellouſly gracious to me. Hide not, I beſeech thee, thy face now from me; and put not thy Servant away in diſpleaſure. Thou haſt been my help, leave me not; neither forſake me, O God of my ſalvation. But for Jeſus Chriſt his ſake I humbly intreat thee to pardon and paſs by all my neglects of thee, and unthankfulneſs to thee, and offences againſt thee. And as I here ſincerely devote and dedicate my whole ſelf, Soul and Body, to thy Service; ſo help me, O

my God, and further me in the performance of my Duty, by the Grace of thy holy Spirit. To thee all hearts are open, and from thee no Secrets are hid: deal with me according to the earneſt deſire and full purpoſe of my Soul, to conform my ſelf in all things to thy holy Will.

Settle in me an unmoveable Faith in thy infinite Mercies, a conſtant love and chearful affection to my Duty, and a readineſs of heart to obey thee, and to ſubmit to thy wiſe appointments in every condition. The whole Earth is full of thy mercy: thou openeſt thy hand and ſatisfieſt the deſire of every living thing: O refuſe not the humble deſires of my poor Soul, which gaſpeth after thee, even as the thirſty Land. Thou who giveſt to the Beaſts their Food, and to the young Ravens when they cry; O ſatisfie me early with thy Mercies, that I may rejoice and be glad all my days. Compoſe my broken and diſturbed thoughts, quiet my troubled and diſordered Spirit;

rit; and appeaſe all the ragings and tumults there, by a ſweet ſenſe of thy moſt tender mercies, which have been ever of old, and endure continually.

Baniſh from me all cauſleſs fears and jealouſies; deliver me from all unprofitable ſadneſs and dejections of Spirit; keep me from raſh judging of my ſelf and much more from charging thee fooliſhly. Beſtow upon me a cheerful Spirit, by an humble hope in thee; and by referring my ſelf wholly to thee. Endue me with ſuch wiſdom and uprightneſs, that I may neither neglect my Duty, nor ſuſpect thy gracious acceptance of me. Give me an hearty zeal to do the beſt that I am able; and a ſettled perſwaſion that thou requireſt no more of me.

Defend me, O my gracious God, from diſhonouring thee, and my Religion; by diſtruſting thy Goodneſs, and calling thy loving kindneſs in queſtion towards thoſe that are ſincerely bent to pleaſe thee. Remove

all

all troubleſome imaginations from me, and give me a clear underſtanding of thee, and of my ſelf. Or when I am in darkneſs and confuſion of thoughts, grant me ſo much light and judgment, as not to conclude my ſelf forſaken by thee, but to reflect upon thy long-continued favours to me, and many deliverances of me; that ſo I may reſolve ſtill to hope in thee, to bear my preſent trouble patiently, and to reſign my will abſolutely to thy good pleaſure. And, good Lord, enable me to look beyond theſe Clouds, to that bleſſed ſtate whither my Saviour is gone; in which there is no darkneſs at all; and in an humble hope of coming to the ſame place where he is, to content my ſelf with any condition whilſt I am here, ſo far remote from that Region of Light and Glory.

Hear me, moſt loving and merciful Father, I moſt humbly beſeech thee. Pity my great dulneſs and deadneſs of heart. Strengthen my weak and feeble

feeble endeavours. Support my fainting Spirit, and cauſe it humbly to hope in thee for ever. Confirm and eſtabliſh every good thought, deſire and purpoſe which thou haſt wrought in me. Perfect that which thou haſt begun. Make me to grow in Wiſdom, Faith, Love, and willing Obedience. Conduct me hereafter ſo evenly and ſteadily, ſo peaceably and quietly, ſo cheerfully and ſecurely in thy ways; that I may glorifie thee whilſt I live, by encouraging others to accompany me in thy Service. And when I come to die, may reſign my Soul unto thee with an undiſturbed mind; in an holy hope alſo of a joyful Reſurrection of the Body, at the Great Day of the Lord Jeſus; to whom be Glory and Dominion for ever, *Amen.*

A Prayer to be ſaid by others for one that is troubled in Mind.

O God, the only hope, the Refuge, the comfort and ſatisfaction of our Souls: Of whoſe Goodneſs

neſs and tender mercy all the World hath ſo many teſtimonies, and we our ſelves have had ſuch long experience, that we are encouraged thereby, though moſt unworthy, to make this humble addreſs to thy Divine Majeſty.

Thou ſeeſt, we know, and pitieſt the miſery and torment of this afflicted Spirit; none of his* ſighs or groanings are hid from thee; But to expoſe alſo our Charity and compaſſionate Concernment for him, we are bold to recommend him to thy favour, as a great object of the Bowels of thy mercy, which are in Chriſt Jeſus.

* *Or her.*

We ought indeed, above all things, to admire thy moſt wiſe Goodneſs, which *hath ſet forth him to be a propitiation, through faith in his blood*; and invited even the greateſt Sinners to return unto thee and live. Bleſſed, eternally bleſſed, be thy great and glorious Grace, which hath ſent us ſuch glad ti-

Rom. 3. 25.

tidings of peace and reconciliation, and aſſured hope; that if we obediently believe thy Holy Goſpel, *thou wilt be merciful to our ſins, and remember our iniquities no more.* Heb. 8. 12. O Father of mercies, who *openeſt the eyes of the blind, and raiſeſt them that are bowed down*; Pſal. 146. 8. open the eyes of this thy Servant, that he may ſee thy marvellous love revealed in Chriſt Jeſus. Touch his Spirit with ſuch a powerful ſenſe of it, that he may both heartily and abſolutely conſent to be governed by thy Laws, and likewiſe be revived with a comfortable belief of the truth of all thy precious promiſes.

Free him from all confuſion of thoughts, and beſtow on him a clear and diſtinct apprehenſion of all things belonging to his peace. And as thou haſt wrought in him a fear of thy Divine Majeſty, and many holy deſires after thee; and perſwaded him, we hope, to be willing in all things to

live godlily: ſo poſſeſs him with an humble belief that thou wilt always enable him to do accordingly; and never fail to ſtrengthen him againſt all the power of the enemy, till he hath got the victory, and triumphs in hope of thy ſalvation.

Raiſe up his Spirit, moſt mighty Lord, by the power of a moſt ſtrong Faith in thine Omnipotent Goodneſs: which delights to cheriſh the leaſt gaſpings and pantings in us after true Righteouſneſs. Bear him up by this above all the Clouds wherein he is encompaſſed, into a clear Heaven of light and joy. Quiet and appeaſe all his tumultuous paſſions, that he may ſilently liſten to thy voice in thy holy Goſpel, ſaying; *Come unto me all ye that labour, and are heavy laden, and I will give you reſt.*

Matth. 11. 28.

Thou who ſearcheſt the hearts, knoweſt that he unfeignedly ſubmits himſelf to the yoke of thy Laws. It is the preſent grief and affliction of his Soul

Soul that he is no more perfectly ſubject to it. O refreſh him with the belief, that thou art more deſirous than he, that there ſhould be a perfect reconciliation of his very nature and diſpoſition to thee: and that therefore thou wilt not deny him the aſſiſtance of thy mighty Grace to help him to fulfill thy whole good will and pleaſure.

O that he may take courage from this hope to begin to do thy will; and continuing in well-doing, and growing more and more in ſtrength and power to perform his Duty, he may be delivered from all ſlaviſh fears, and jealouſies, and diſtruſt of thy Divine Goodneſs. Eſpecially keep him from deſpair of thy mercy, as the greateſt diſhonour to thee, and to thy abundant Grace in the Lord Jeſus.

O thou who didſt invite even thoſe great Sinners, *who by wicked hands took and crucified thy dear Son, to repent and be baptized for the remiſſion of ſins*: lift up Acts 2. 23. 38.

this

this dejected Soul to an humble confidence in thee: that thou wilt not deny him the ſame mercy. And as thou haſt ſworn that thou haſt no pleaſure in the death of the Wicked, but that he ſhould turn from his evil way and live: ſo be pleaſed, Bleſſed God, to make him ſenſibly feel his Soul is turning to thee; ſince he can find no comfort and ſatisfaction, but only in thy love and favour, which he eſteems better than life it ſelf.

And that he may obtain thy pardon, help him *from his heart to forgive every one that hath treſpaſſed againſt him.*

Matth. 18. 35.
Luke 19. 8.

And if *he have taken any thing from any man wrongfully*, grant him Grace to *reſtore it* to him: *To give alms likewiſe of ſuch things as he hath, and to break off his ſins by righteouſneſs, and his iniquities by ſhewing mercy to the poor*; that thou who art rich in mercy, mayſt *be favourable unto him, and he may ſee thy face with joy.*

Luke 11. 41.
Dan. 4. 27.
Job 33. 26.

Hear

Hear us, good Lord, and give every of us Grace, to walk exactly, and to keep pure Conſciences, void of offence, towards thee, and towards all men; that ſo we may live and die in peace; looking for thy mercy in Chriſt Jeſus, unto Eternal Life. *Amen.*

Another for a Perſon in the ſame condition.

O Lord, the Father of Spirits, the Lover of our Souls: who art pleaſed beſt in our love and hearty affection to thee; and wouldeſt have us delight our ſelves in the thoughts of thee, and rejoyce continually in thy holy name. Give us leave to render our humble thanks to thy Divine Majeſty, for this knowledge which thou haſt given us of thy bleſſed Nature; and in imitation of it to recommend with moſt fervent Charity this deſolate and afflicted Soul to thy tender Mercies. He is filled with trem-

trembling thoughts and frightful apprehenſions of thee. The dread and terror of thy diſpleaſure hath overwhelmed his Spirit. *He is troubled, and bowed down greatly; he goeth mourning all the day long.* Pſal. 38. 6. O that thou wouldeſt be pleaſed ſo to repreſent thy ſelf unto him that he may be poſſeſſed with the ſame ſenſe which thou haſt wrought in our minds; that *thou art Love,* and deſireſt to be loved, and cheerfully ſerved by all that worſhip thee.

Thou haſt graciouſly wrought in him already a ſenſe of his Duty towards thee. Great ſorrow overflows his Soul for his neglects of thee, and offences againſt thee. And out of this depth he ſighs and groans, and cries unto thee with earneſt deſires, and purpoſes, to live more holily for the time to come. Awaken his mind, good Lord, to very ſenſible and thankful reflections upon this Grace, which thou haſt begun to ſhew him.

Bleſs

Bleſs all the pious counſels and inſtructions which thou likewiſe vouchſafeſt unto him to the encouraging of his hope in thee, that thou *who haſt begun a good work in him, wilt perfect it even until the day of Jeſus Chriſt.* Phil. 1. 6. Remember him that as Ecclus. 2. 18. thy *Majeſty is, ſo is thy Mercy*: and that thy power delights to ſhew it ſelf in doing good unto thy Creatures: eſpecially to the humble, the thankful, and the willing perſons who are ready to ſubmit themſelves to thy bleſſed Will.

O that this Divine Faith may baniſh all thoſe fears that drive him from thee: and that he may rather fear leſt he ſhould offend thy Divine Majeſty, by not confiding in thoſe promiſes of mercy, which thou haſt made in thy Holy Goſpel to all returning ſinners. O that all his thoughts and care hereafter may only be to make his purpoſe of pleaſing thee in all things, ſerious, hearty and unfeigned:

be-

believing that thou wilt graciouſly accept ſuch holy reſolutions, and certainly further and ſucceed them as the effect of thine own inſpirations.

Suffer not his Spirit to be oppreſſed under the ſenſe of his great weakneſs; or diſcouraged, though he fall ſhort of his preſent holy deſires, purpoſe and endeavours: but bear him up in a ſtrong perſwaſion, that by ſincere, conſtant and unwearied diligence in well-doing, he ſhall at laſt obtain the Victory; through the power of thy Holy Spirit aſſiſting of him. Make him ſee how reaſonable it is moſt gratefully to acknowledge thy Infinite Mercies, if after much pains, many conflicts and long patience, he may recover a ſtate of friendſhip with thee, That ſo he may not ſpend his time in dejected complaints, nor ever faint in his mind, or deſpond in the Chriſtian courſe: but ſtill purſue the compleat maſtery over himſelf, in aſſured hope that thou wilt be with him, and never leave him or forſake him. We

We bleſs thee for that inſtance of thy exceeding Grace to the chiefeſt of Sinners, which thou gaveſt in thy holy Apoſtle of us Gentiles: *Who was a Blaſphemer, and a perſecutor, and injurious; but for this cauſe obtained mercy, that in him Chriſt Jeſus might ſhew forth all long-ſuffering, for a pattern to them which ſhould hereafter believe on him to life everlaſting.* 1 Tim. 1. 13, 16.

Above all we bleſs thee for our Lord Jeſus himſelf, whom thou ſenteſt in our Fleſh, that he might ſave Sinners. We bleſs thee for all the miraculous Cures which he wrought on miſerable Creatures, whereby he demonſtrated his great Charity towards us: For the gracious Proclamation he hath made of thy pardoning mercy: and for the univerſal invitation which he hath given to every one, *that is athirſt, to come and take the waters of life freely.* Rev. 22, 17.

1 Joh. 2. 2. Luke 23. 34. Acts 5. 31. 2 Cor. 5. 18. Matth. 26. 28. Heb. 7. 2. 5. Heb. 2. 17. Heb. 4. 15. We thank thee for his Death upon the Croſs, that he might make a propitiation for the ſins of the whole World: for his great love in praying then for his bittereſt enemies, that they might be forgiven: for his reſurrection and exaltation at thy right hand, *to be a Prince and a Saviour, to give repentance and forgiveneſs* of *ſins*: and that he hath given to his Apoſtles, the *Miniſtry of reconciliation*; and admitted us into a Covenant of mercy and forgiveneſs, by baptiſm into his Name; and hath left us the Cup of Bleſſing, which *is the new Covenant in his Blood for the remiſſion of ſins*; and given Power and Authority to his Miniſters to abſolve all thoſe who heartily repent, and unfeignedly believe his holy Goſpel. We thank thee, O Lord, for the aſſurance we have *that he lives for ever to make interceſ-*

ſion

ſion for us, and is able to ſave to the uttermoſt all thoſe that come to thee by him: and that he *is a merciful and faithful High-Prieſt, to make reconciliation for the ſins of the people; being touched with a feeling of all our miſeries.*

We cannot doubt, O Bleſſed God, of thy gracious intentions and deſires to pardon us, and to make us better, when we ſeriouſly meditate on all theſe teſtimonies of thy Divine love; and on that eaſie and gentle Yoke, which thou layeſt on us, to love thee with all our heart, and our Neighbour as our ſelves: and on the promiſed aſſiſtance which we have hopes of from above, to inſpire, enliven and ſtrengthen us, to all well-doing and patient ſuffering.

O that this languiſhing Soul may likewiſe feel the comfortable influence of all theſe heavenly Truths reviving and cheering his Spirit into a good hope in thee; that thou wilt mercifully accept the oblation which

he is willing to make of himſelf to thee, and alſo conſtantly enable him to offer himſelf with greater affection and more pure devotion to thy Service. Scatter all the Clouds that darken his mind, and lift upon him the light of thy countenance. *O Give him the comfort of thy help again, and eſtabliſh him with thy free Spirit. Quicken him, O Lord, for thy Names ſake: for thy righteouſneſs ſake bring his ſoul out of trouble. Put gladneſs into his heart, and revive him again; that he and we may rejoyce in thee.* Amen,

Pſal. 51. 12.
143. 11.
4. 7.
85. 6.
2 Theſſ. 1. 11.
1 Tim. 1. 14.

Amen, O God of all Grace: *Fulfill in him all the good pleaſure of thy Goodneſs, and the work of Faith with power: that the name of our Lord may be glorified in him; according to that Grace which was exceeding abundant, with faith and love which is in Chriſt Jeſus: To whom be Glory and Praiſe for ever and ever.* Amen.

When

WHEN ſickneſs arreſts any perſon, it is time for him preſently, in the very beginning of it, to ſearch and try his ways: *ſorrowfully to confeſs the ſins of which he finds himſelf guilty, with a full purpoſe of amendment; to adviſe with his Spiritual Guide; and before his Spirit be feeble and broken, to recommend himſelf heartily to our bleſſed Saviour, by and Blood; therein making a commereceiving the communion of his Body moration of his wonderful love, and devoting himſelf again to his Service. And having ſet his Houſe in order (as the Prophet ſaid to* Hezekiah, Iſa. 38. 1.) *and ſettled his Eſtate, to acknowledge* GOD's *great Goodneſs to him hitherto, and to ſubmit himſelf wholly to his good Pleaſure, in ſuch manner as followeth.*

A Prayer in the beginning of a Sickneſs.

O Lord, the Sovereign of the World! *who doſt what thou*

Pſal. 135. 6. *pleaſeſt in heaven and in earth*; and delighteſt moſt in acts of Bounty, as all thy Works every where declare; and art *full* Eccluſ. 2. 11. *of compaſſion and mercy, long ſuffering and very pitiful, and forgiveſt ſins, and ſaveſt in time of affliction.* I acknowledge my ſelf among the reſt of thy Creatures, to be moſt deeply indebted to thee: whoſe life thou haſt prolonged to this time in much health, and plenty and peace; together with the enjoyment of ſpiritual bleſſings in the Lord Jeſus. I thank thee, and praiſe thee, all that is within me bleſſes thy Holy Name: to whoſe wiſe and good Providence I wholly refer my ſelf for the time to come; placing my intire truſt and confidence in thy Almighty Goodneſs, Faithfulneſs and Truth, which endures for ever.

I ought to receive with all thankfulneſs whatſoever comes from thy hand; and believe that to be good for me, which thy infinite Wiſdom

and kindneſs orders and allots for my Portion. Accordingly I accept with all humble and dutiful affection, this thy fatherly chaſtiſement. I acknowledge thy care of me, and ſubmit to what thou wilt be pleaſed to lay upon me. If thou thinkeſt good to exerciſe me with a longer ſickneſs, and to let the preſent indiſpoſition of my Body proceed to a greater diſorder; not my will, but thine, O heavenly Father, be done.

I only wait on thee for the comfortable Preſence of thy Holy Spirit, to ſupport my Soul by faith, and hope, and patience, under all the pains I may endure. Lay no more upon me O Father of Mercies, than I ſhall be able to bear; and lay upon me what thou pleaſeſt. Free me, for the preſent from all murmuring and repining thoughts; and for the future, make the ſickneſs and anguiſh of my Body a bleſſed inſtrument to purge my Spirit more perfectly from all pride and vanity, from all covetouſneſs and

worldly mindedneſs, and from all inordinate love of any of the pleaſures of this life.

I believe, O bleſſed Jeſus, that thou liveſt for ever, who ſufferedſt and diedſt for us: and that thou haſt a great compaſſion towards thoſe, who would gladly follow thee though it be through Sufferings. Behold, O Lord, I commend my ſelf to thy mighty love, deſiring above all things to be made conformable to thee, in meekneſs, in humility, in patience, in intire reſignation to God's holy will and pleaſure, and in perfect ſatisfaction in his fatherly love and kindneſs, whatſoever my condition be.

I am ſenſible, O God, that I have not employed my time to the utmoſt advantage of my Soul, and to thy honour and glory; but have waſted many precious hours, and ſeveral ways neglected my Duty towards thee *, and been but an unprofitable part of this World, ſo that I am

* *Here reckon up the ſins you may have committed.*

am not worthy to continue any longer in it. But I hope thou wilt vouchsafe me thy gracious pardon, and receive me to mercy, if thou calleſt me hence (for into thy hands, O Father, I commend my Spirit, who haſt redeemed me by the precious Blood of Jeſus Chriſt:) And that if thou prolongeſt my days on Earth, I ſhall ſerve thee with greater diligence, and ſtrictneſs, and zeal and cheerfulneſs, to the end of my life.

I deſire not to live, but that I may perfect holineſs in thy fear, and ſecure to my ſelf, by doing more good, an happy entertainment into the Society of the Bleſſed, in the other World. I ſee already the emptineſs and inſufficiency of all enjoyments upon Earth. *All fleſh is graſs, and all the goodlineſs of it, as the flower of the field. The graſs withereth, the flower fadeth: But thy Word ſtandeth faſt for ever.* Iſa. 40. 7. Pſal. 119. 50. 81. *In thy word* therefore, O Lord, and gracious promiſes,

miſes, is my hope. This is my comfort in my Affliction.

And my perfect contentment, I ſee, lies always in thy love and favour alone, which is better than life it ſelf. O ſettle me in a certain and unmoveable poſſeſſion of it, by what means thou pleaſeſt. Do but love me, and preſerve me in a lively ſenſe of thy good will towards me, and diſpoſe of me as thou thinkeſt good. *In the multitude of my thoughts within me, thy comforts ſhall delight my Soul.* I will *rejoyce* even *in* the midſt of *tribulations, and glory in thy holy name, who makeſt all things work together for good to them that love thee. Though I walk through the ſhadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me; thy power, and tender care, they ſhall comfort me.*

Pſal. 94. 19.
Rom. 5. 2. 8. 28.
Pſal. 23. 3. 30. 10.

Accept, Good Lord, of theſe my deſires and Reſolutions, *Hear me, O God and have mercy upon me. Lord, be*

be thou my helper; for Chriſt Jeſus his ſake, my ever bleſſed Redeemer. *Amen.*

IT will be ſeaſonable here to put the Devout Reader in mind, that when he is in diſtreſs, and deſires Mercy of GOD; *it ought to excite his charity to others that are in miſery, and diſpoſe him to ſhew mercy to them. For though that be not Canonical Scripture which we read, Tob.* 12. 9. Alms doth deliver from death; *yet this is*: With the merciful, GOD will ſhew himſelf merciful. (*Pſal.* 18. 25.) Bleſſed is he that conſidereth the poor; the Lord will deliver him in time of trouble. (*Pſal.* 41. 1, 2, 3.) *If he do not* preſerve him and keep him alive; *yet* the Lord will ſtrengthen him upon the bed of languiſhing; he will make all his bed in his ſickneſs. *Therefore as thou recommendeſt thy ſelf to* GOD, *and deſireſt others to pray with thee, ſo remember that*, Prayer is good with faſting, and alms, and righteouſneſs, *Tob.* 12. 8.

A Prayer to be ſaid by the Family, with the Sick Perſon.

O Lord, the Father of our Spirits: who *giveſt* to us and all creature, *life and breath, and all things.* We ſinful duſt and aſhes, bluſh to lift up our eyes unto Heaven, when we conſider our vaſt diſtance from thee; and reflect upon thy unſpotted holineſs, and our impurity; thy infinite wiſdom, and our wretched folly, thy power, and our weakneſs; thy Eternity of life, and our ſhort continuance. *We are but of yeſterday and know nothing, becauſe our days upon earth are a ſhadow. When thou with rebukes doſt correct man for iniquity, thou makeſt his beauty to conſume away like a moth: Surely every man is vanity.*

Job 8. 9.
Pſal. 39. 11.
Job 25. 6.

But ſo great is thy condeſcending grace, that thou haſt aſſured us thou wilt not deſpiſe ſuch Worms as we are

are. Nay, thou haſt encouraged us, bleſſed be thy goodneſs, to approach unto thee with ſome confidence, that thou wilt mercifully receive us, though we have highly offended thy Divine Majeſty: Having ſent thy dear Son into the world to ſave ſinners; to purifie our natures; to endue us with a divine underſtanding, to ſtrengthen our weakneſs; and to comfort us with the hope of an immortal life.

Behold, O Lord, the oblation which we make to thee of moſt thankful hearts, devoted to thy ſervice; whoſe love and tender mercies have ſo exceedingly abounded towards us. We will praiſe thee, and glorifie thee as long as we have any being, for this great ſalvation which Chriſt Jeſus hath brought to light by his reſurrection from the dead to an eternal Kingdom in the Heavens. We are humbly bold to hope in thee, that thou who *haſt not ſpared thy own Son, but delivered him up* Rom. 8. 32.

for

for us all, wilt with him alſo freely give us all things. O thou *Father of mercies and God of all comfort*, who haſt not thought a Crown of everlaſting life and glory too much to promiſe us: we believe that thou wilt not deny us what is needful and fit for us, both for our ſouls, and our bodies, in our paſſage through this world to that honour, glory and immortality.

In this confidence we more particularly recommend this thy ſick ſervant to thy infinite and moſt compaſſionate mercy. Settle in * *his* ſoul a ſtedfaſt faith, that thou *doſt not willingly grieve the children of men*; but intendeſt good to *him*, by this Affliction. And now that other pleaſures and enjoyments fail *him*, repreſent thy ſelf effectually unto *him* as his true happineſs and ſatisfaction. Whereinſoever *he* hath neglected thee, or committed any offence againſt thee, make *him* deeply ſenſible of, and heartily ſorrowful for, *his* folly. And as *he* earneſtly deſires par-

* *Or her.*

don

don and forgiveneſs of thee; ſo work in *him* a ſerious reſolution to live more circumſpectly and exactly in time to come. Aſſiſt *him* graciouſly, O Lord, that he may give a proof of his ſincere intentions hereafter, to ſubmit *himſelf* in all things to thy will, by his patient ſubmiſſion to thy fatherly correction now. O that *he* may ſo quietly, ſo meekly, ſo humbly and cheerfully reſign his will unto thee, to ſuffer what thou inflicteſt; that he may be the more diſpoſed readily to deny *his* own deſires, in doing whatſoever thou commandeſt.

For which end make *him* throughly apprehenſive of thy Sovereign power and authority over all creatures. Poſſeſs *him* with a great reverence of thy wiſdom and juſtice; with an intire confidence in thy goodneſs, and charity; and with a thankful remembrance of all thy paſt mercies to *him*; which have been innumerable; that ſo *he* may the better indure what thou layeſt upon *him* at preſent; and ever

chuſe

chuſe to follow thy directions, and ſubmit to thy orders, and love thy commandments, and delight to do thy will, O God.

Bleſs and ſucceed thoſe Remedies that are uſed for the reſtoring *him* to *his* former health; that *he* may live to perform *his* holy purpoſes. Or if thou haſt otherwiſe appointed, accept of them graciouſly; and diſpoſe *him* to return back *his* ſpirit willingly unto thee who gaveſt it; and with great humility and deep ſenſe of *his* own undeſervings to expect thy mercy declared in Chriſt Jeſus, who hath ſo highly merited of thee. Fix *his* mind ſtedfaſtly upon him, who hath led the way through the grave unto heaven: that *he* may not be affrighted with the approaches of death! but looking beyond it to that high and holy place where the Lord Jeſus is, may rejoice in hope of thy eternal glory.

And give every one of us in our beſt eſtate of health, to conſider perpetually how frail and weak we are; that

that ſo we may not abuſe our ſelves by an intemperate uſe of any of the pleaſures of ſenſe; nor load our minds with the cares of this life: nor ſpend our days in a vain purſuit of the honour and glory of this world: But may *paſs all the time of our ſojourning here in fear*; and live ſo *ſoberly, righteouſly and godly in this preſent world*, as becomes thoſe who expect ſhortly to give an account to thee, who wilt judge all men according to their work. Hear us, O Lord, we moſt humbly beſeech thee, through Chriſt Jeſus our merciful and compaſſionate High-Prieſt; who ſits at thy right hand, and lives for ever to make Interceſſion for us. In whoſe Name we continue to recommend our ſelves, and friends, and all thy people to thee, as he hath taught us; ſaying,

2 Pet. 1. 17.
Tit. 2. 12.

Our Father, &c.

A *Shorter.*

WE proſtrate our ſelves before thee O Lord of Heaven and Earth; acknowledging that we are but duſt and aſhes at the beſt, and have made our ſelves ſinful duſt and aſhes; utterly unworthy to ſpeak unto thee, either for our ſelves or for others. We moſt humbly and earneſtly beg thy gracious pardon; and beſeech thee, for Jeſus Chriſt his ſake, to accept of our unfeigned ſorrow for what is paſt, and of our ſincere purpoſes by thy gracious aſſiſtance (which we know thou wilt not deny us) to live more ſoberly, righteouſly and godly for the time to come.

More particularly we implore thy grace and favour towards this thy ſick ſervant, in whom we ſee how weak and frail we all are. Work in *him* * a true and hearty repentance for all the ſins *he* hath committed, in thought, word or

* *Or her.*

or deed, againſt thy Divine Majeſty. Give *him* a lively and ſtedfaſt faith in thy Son Jeſus, who died for our offences, and was raiſed again for our juſtification. Fill *him* with a reviveing hope of that immortal life, which he hath purchaſed and promiſed; and with a powerful ſenſe of thy fatherly love to *him*, and tender care over *him* in the moſt afflicted condition. Let *him* feel thou loveſt *him*, by thy heavenly ſupports and comforts vouchſafed to *him* from above; and by beſtowing on *him* perfect patience, and abſolute ſubmiſſion to thee, during this ſickneſs.

We know there is nothing impoſſible with thee, but that if thou wilt, thou canſt raiſe *him* up, and grant *him* a longer continuance in this world. O that it may be thy gracious pleaſure to reſtore *him* to us! may it pleaſe thee to ſave *him* and deliver *him*, for thy goodneſs ſake, O Lord. Bleſs all the means that are uſed for *his* preſervation, and make them effectual. Rebuke

buke *his* diſeaſe by thy all powerful Word, and command it to leave *him*. And in the mean time, help *him* meekly to reſign *himſelf* to thy wiſdom, and humbly to confide in thy loving kindneſs; and quietly to wait upon thee, for eaſe and refreſhment at preſent, and for perfect health and ſtrength at laſt.

Which we earneſtly beſeech thee, in thy good time to beſtow upon *him*, for the ſake of him who is the *Reſurrection and the life*, the Healer and Repairer of our decayed Nature, the Saviour both of ſoul and body, our compaſſionate Interceſſor with thee, who can have a feeling of all our Infirmities and Miſeries, and we believe is always ready to ſuccour thoſe who in all their troubles make him their Refuge: To whom, with thee, O Father Almighty, in the Unity of the ſame eternal Spirit, be all honour and glory, thankſgiving and praiſe, ſubmiſſion and reverence, love and obſervance, chearful ſervice and hearty

hearty obedience, both now and for evermore. *Amen.*

A Prayer to be ſaid by the Family or Friends, when a Sickneſs continues long.

BEhold, O Lord, thy poor unworthy ſervants, who here moſt humbly bow themſelves unto thee; acknowledging that we deſerve not to live, nor to have the leaſt regard from thee in our diſtreſs, whom we ſo much neglected when we enjoyed our hearts deſire. Be merciful unto us O Lord, be merciful unto us, for the ſake of him, who ſhed his own moſt precious Blood for the ſalvation of returning ſinners. We come unto thee with ſorrowful hearts, bewailing our fooliſh wandrings from thee; and with ſincere love, vowing more faithful obedience hereafter to thee.

Bleſſed be thy Goodneſs that we have ſuch good hope thou wilt not caſt

caſt us off; but reſtore us again into thy grace and favour. It encourages us to hope in thee alſo for this thy ſick ſervant, here lying under thy hand in great weakneſs of body. Look graciouſly upon *him* (or *her*) O Lord, and *now that* his *outward man is much decayed, ſtrengthen* him, *we beſeech thee ſo much the more by the grace of thy holy Spirit in* his *inward man.* Give *him* unfeigned repentance for all the errors of *his* life paſt; a ſtedfaſt faith in thy Son Jeſus; a comfortable aſſurance of the truth of all his precious promiſes; a lively hope of that immortal bliſs, in which he reigns for evermore; and a ſtrong ſenſe of thy fatherly love to *him*, and care over *him*, under this ſore and grievous affliction: which may make him heartily love thee, and entirely confide in thee, and abſolutely reſign both ſoul and body to thy wiſe diſpoſal.

We know there is nothing too hard for thee; but that, if thou wilt, thou canſt bring *him* up, even from the

the Gates of Death, and grant *him* a longer continuance among us. May it be thy good pleaſure, O moſt gracious God, ſtill to continue *him!* Spare *him*, O Lord, and deliver *him* alſo ſpeedily from this miſery, under which he hath ſo long groaned. Bleſs all the means that are uſed for *his* recovery; and for the ſupport of *his* ſpirits; and give him refreſhment, during this tedious ſickneſs. Releaſe *him* from *his* pain, or grant *him* ſome eaſe; or elſe increaſe and ſtrengthen *his* patience. Help *him*, in remembrance of thy paſt loving-kindneſs, to truſt in thy goodneſs, and ſubmit to thy wiſdom, and bear with an equal mind, what thou thinkeſt fit to lay upon *him*: that *he* approving *himſelf* to thee, in theſe and all other vertues, while thou tryeſt *him* by ſo ſore an affliction; may ſay at the laſt, it was good for me that I was in trouble.

Unto thy infinite Mercies we recommend *him*; and to the compaſſionate

nate kindneſs of our Lord Jeſus. Who we hope will hear all the Prayers of *his* friends for *him* every where; and ſend his good ſpirit to be *his* Comforter, and *his* good Angels to be *his* Guardians; and direct thoſe who are to adviſe and preſcribe the means of *his* reſtauration, and bring *him* to praiſe thee again in the Aſſemblies of thy Saints on earth; or if thou haſt otherwiſe diſpoſed in thy wiſe Counſels, to praiſe thee in the great Aſſembly of Saints and Angels in Heaven; through Jeſus Chriſt our Lord and only Saviour; to whom with thee and thy holy Spirit, be all praiſe, love and obedience, world without end. *Amen.*

A Prayer to be ſaid by the Family or Friends, when the ſick perſon wants ſleep.

ADored be thy Love, thy wonderful Love, O moſt gracious God, who haſt ſo many ways expreſ-

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ſed thy bounty towards us. Thy Mercies in Chriſt Jeſus ſurpaſs all our thoughts. Nor are we able to number all the other bleſſings, thou haſt beſtowed on us. How much do we owe thee, for the quiet ſleep of but one night! We ſee in this thy poor afflicted ſervant, how much we ought to thank thee for this ſingle bleſſing; that our eyes, when we would cloſe them, are not held waking.

Pardon, Good Lord, our foul ingratitude for this and all the reſt of thy undeſerved Mercies. And be pleaſed graciouſly alſo to viſit *him* *, who ſtill languiſhes on *his* ſick bed; looking up to thee, from whom cometh our help. Renew *his* waſted ſpirits with comfortable ſleep. Compoſe *him* to a ſweet and undiſturbed reſt. Refreſh *him* thereby ſo ſenſibly, that *he* may be reſtored to ſuch a degree of ſtrength, as may make *him* able, in ſome meaſure, affectionately to acknowledge thy goodneſs, when thou haſt dealt ſo bountiful with *him*. Or

* *Or Her.*

Or if thou delayeſt to beſtow that bleſſing on *him*, O God, that in the multitude of *his* thoughts within *him*, thy comforts may delight *his* ſoul. If he be ſtill toſſed upon a weariſom Bed without any reſt, O that *his* mind may reſt and repoſe it ſelf in the boſom of thy deareſt love; and may feel the moſt ſenſible conſolations from Heaven, not only quieting, but greatly rejoycing *his* heart. Preſerve the uſe of his underſtanding and let the enemy have no advantage of *him*: but make *him* able to ſay, *I will wait patiently for the Lord, till he encline his ear unto me and hear my cry.*

Pſal. 40. 1.

O hear his *prayer*, O Lord, *and give ear unto* his *cry. O ſpare* him *that* he *may recover ſtrength before* he *go hence and be no more.*

Pſal. 39. 12, 13.

Amen, for Jeſus Chriſt his ſake, *Amen.*

A Prayer to be ſaid by the Family or Friends, when the ſick perſon grows light headed.

O Lord, look down from Heaven in much pity and compaſſion, upon this thy afflicted Servant; who is not able now to look up unto thee. The ſadder * *his* condition grows, the fitter object it is of thy infinite tender mercies. Who acceptest, we believe, of the Submiſſion *he* made of *himſelf*, in the beginning of *his* ſickneſs, to thy Almighty wiſdom and goodneſs: And therefore, ſince it is thy pleaſure to ſuffer *his* diſtemper to proceed to this dangerous extremity wilt no leſs graciouſly love *him*, and delight in *him*, than if *he* could ſtill give up *himſelf* to thy bleſſed will.

* *Or her.*

And hear, O moſt merciful Father, our prayers in *his* behalf. Excite them alſo to a greater ardency than ever for *him*, now that *he* can no longer

commend *himself* to thy mercies. Pardon, Good Lord, pardon all *his* ſins. Impute not to *him* any of *his* former follies. Lay not to *his* charge *his* not improving, or any ways miſuſing of *his* reaſon and underſtanding. Which we earneſtly, but humbly intreat thee to reſtore to *him*, together with ſuch a meaſure of thy divine grace, as may quicken and aſſiſt *him* then to employ *his* thoughts to the beſt purpoſes: eſpecially in meditating of thy mercies, in ſtudying thy praiſe, and in exhorting all others to love thee, and truſt thee, and ſincerely obey thee.

And while *he* remains thus deprived of *his* reaſon, be pleaſed to quiet and compoſe *his* ſpirits, or to prevent all furious motions there, or quickly to abate ſuch violent paſſions, if any ariſe. For which end be pleaſed to remove all frightful Imaginations far from *him*; and ſuffer not the evil one to approach *him*; preſerve *him* from doing any harm, either to *himſelf*, or

to

to any other. *Forſake* him *not, O Lord. O our God, be not far from* him. *Make haſte to help* him, *O Lord, our Salvation.* He *is poor and needy, but the Lord thinketh on* him: *Thou art our helper and deliverer, make no tarrying, O our God. So will we all give thanks unto thee for ever. We will be ſtill praiſing thee; and ſhewing forth thy loving kindneſs to thoſe who ſucceed us. That they may ſet their hope in thee our God; and not forget thy works, but keep thy commandments.*

Pſal. 38. 21, 22.
Pſal. 40. 17.
Pſal. 78. 7.
Pſal. 79. 13.

Amen, Amen; make us all ſo happy for Jeſus Chriſt his ſake. *Amen.*

A Prayer to be ſaid by any Pious perſon for a Sick Neighbour.

O Moſt gracious God, who by thy Son Jeſus haſt knit us all together in one body: that we ſhould love

one another; and *whether one member ſuffer, all the members ſhould ſuffer with it, or one member be honoured, all the reſt ſhould rejoyce with it:* I humbly implore thy tender mercies towards *N. N.* of whoſe afflicted condition I deſire to have a compaſſionate ſenſe and feeling. Look graciouſly upon *him* *, O Lord, and viſit *him* with thy ſalvation. Vouchſafe *him* ſuch conſolations from above as I ſhould deſire for my ſelf, were I in *his* eſtate. Give *him* a true penitent heart for all the offences *he* hath at any time committed: together with a lively faith in thy Son Jeſus, who came into the World to ſave ſinners. Give *him* the comfort of a holy hope that thou acceptеſt *his* repentance, and faithful devotion to thee. Support *him* by this hope under all *his* pain, and enable *him* patiently to ſubmit to thy fatherly correction. Send *him* help now in time of need both for *his* ſoul and for *his* body. Bleſs the means of *his* recovery. And

* *Or Her.*

if

if it be thy good pleaſure, reſtore *him* ſpeedily to *his* former health; together with a ſerious reſolution in *his* heart, to ſerve thee more zealouſly all *his* days.

Or if thou haſt otherwiſe reſolved in thy wiſe Counſels, deliver *him* from the fear of death; aſſiſt *him* in *his* laſt agony: give him an eaſie and cheerful paſſage out of this life; and ſend thy holy Angels to conduct *him* into reſt and peace with our Lord Jeſus. To whom with thee, O Father of mercies, and thy holy Spirit, be given all honour, glory and praiſe, by all creatures in heaven and earth, from this time forth and for evermore. *Amen.*

IF the Diſeaſe proceed to ſuch an extremity, that in all appearance the Soul is ready to depart, there is a Commendatory Prayer *appointed in the publick Offices of Devotion, to be ſaid by the Miniſter, whoſe aſſiſtance then ſure will be deſired. And beſides, the*

ſick perſon himſelf, as long as he is able, may thus recommend his ſoul unto Almighty God.

A Prayer when a Perſon is giving up the Ghoſt.

I Reſign my ſpirit, O God, moſt chearfully into thy hands; hopeing to find mercy with thee through Chriſt Jeſus. I know no other name under Heaven whereby I may be ſaved, but thine alone, O bleſſed Jeſus; who *waſt dead, and art alive again, and liveſt for evermore.* I come unto thee, O Lord, confiding in thy moſt precious promiſes, (which I believe are *faithful* and *true* as thou art) for pardon and for immortal life.

Rev. 1. 18.

Accept I beſeech thee, of my moſt hearty thanks, for all thy mercies to me, from the beginning of my life to this moment. Paſs by all my ingratitude and diſobedience. Receive me into

into the company of the *ſpirits of juſt men made perfect*, to give thee thanks for ever.

And as I deſire to find mercy with thee; ſo I forgive all my enemies Beſeeching thee likewiſe to forgive them, and to bleſs and comfort all my friends, and to make thy whole Church glorious: and to bring us all at laſt to live together in everlaſting love and joy, through Chriſt Jeſus. *Amen.*

An Act of Reſignation when a Friend is Dead.

I Adore thee, O Lord, I bow my very will, with my whole ſoul, to thee; *whoſe Judgments are unſearchable, and whoſe ways are paſt finding out.* I believe thou intendeſt to do me good, even by denying my earneſt, and ſo often repeated deſires. *I will bleſs the Lord* therefore *at all times. The Lord*

gave, and the Lord hath taken away: Bleſſed be the Name of the Lord.

I have received innumerable good things from thy hands, O Father of Mercies, why ſhould I not receive thoſe that are evil? *The Cup which my Father hath given me, ſhall I not drink it?* I humbly take it from thy hands, O my God, and ſubmit to thy wiſe diſpenſation. I return to thee back again, that which thou ſo lovingly beſtowedſt upon me; with my moſt hearty thanks for lending me the enjoyment of it ſo long. Do but pardon all my ingratitude, all the omiſſions of my Duty, and whatſoever I have done contrary to it; and I ſhall endeavour to *rejoice in thee always*, and ſtill to be praiſing thee under the ſharpeſt chaſtiſements, which are leſs than I deſerve.

Bleſſed be thy Goodneſs, that I am not without hope of this gracious pardon. Bleſſed be thy Goodneſs, that thou haſt not taken away thy holy Spirit from me. Yea, bleſſed be that

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Goodneſs, that hath left me ſtill ſo many worldly Bleſſings, which many want, and have loſt their deareſt Relations too. It is of the Lord's mercy, that lovers, Friends and Acquaintance, together, with all other comforts of this life, are not quite gone away foom me, and removed into darkneſs. Bleſſed be God, that I am not groaning on a ſick Bed; and that I languiſh not under the moſt tedious pains [*bleſſed be God that I want not my daily bread, that I am not oppreſſed with debt, that I lie not in priſon, or am not turned out of doors, having no certain dwelling place*] Yea, bleſſed be God that all my days have not been ſo miſerable, as ſome few have been. Bleſſed be God that the days which I and *He**, (who hath now left me) ſpent together, were not all bitterneſs and ſorrow; but were ſweetned by the enjoyment of many, very many good things.

* *Or She.*

O my Soul, never ceaſe to bleſs the

Lord, *forget not all his benefits.* Eſpecially his great love, his exceeding great love in Chriſt Jeſus, by whom he hath provided a remedy for all our griefs, and comforted us with the hope of another and better life, where there is no death, nor any pain or ſorrow, but all tears ſhall be wiped away from our Eyes.

To thee I flee, O bleſſed Jeſus, who art my beſt and my Eternal Friend. To thee who knoweſt our frame, and canſt have compaſſion on our infirmities, moſt humbly beſeeching thee, to bear me up under this ſore affliction, in a thankful remembrance of all thy mercies. Yea, draw up my heart thereby more towards Heaven; where thou, my life, art [where I hope my *Husband*, *Wife*, or *Friend is*] where I hope to be when thou ſhalt call me away from hence: There to ſing thy Praiſes with inceſſant joy, in the company of all thy Saints, and of the holy Angels. *Amen*, *Amen.*

A Prayer when there is ſome hope *of the Sick Man's* Recovery.

We caſt down our ſelves before thee, O Father of Mercies, and God of all comfort, to implore thy Grace and favour towards this thy Servant; who ſtill lies under thy hand in great weakneſs of Body. We thank thee, O Lord, that *he* * is no weaker; but though *he* be brought very low, we have ſome hope thou wilt raiſe *him* up again. Bleſſed be thy Goodneſs, that he is not gone down into ſilence, and hath not made his Bed in the Duſt. Bleſſed be thy Goodneſs.

* *Or She.*

O thou *Preſerver of men*, who haſt begun to revive and quicken *him* again; go on to perfect that which belongs to *his* Cure, and forſake not the work of thy own hands. Repair all the decays in *his* outward man that *his* mind may alſo recover its former

former ſtrength, to praiſe and bleſs thy Goodneſs to him.

And viſit *him* in the mean time with thy heavenly conſolation from above. Fill *him* with comfortable thoughts of thy love and of the tender, compaſſionate care, which our Lord Jeſus takes of all his afflicted Servants. Endue *him* ſtill with more patient ſubmiſſion to thy Will. And enable *him* both quietly to wait upon thee, till thou h'ſt finiſhed *his* recovery; and alſo to continue ſtedfaſtly reſolved to ſerve thee more faithfully with *his* reſtored ſtrength, through Jeſus Chriſt our bleſſed Saviour and Redeemer. By whom, and with whom, in the Unity of the Holy Ghoſt, all honour and Glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, World without end. *Amen.*

A thankſgiving for the beginning of a Recovery.

O Moſt great and mighty Lord *who killeſt and makeſt alive, who bringeſt*

bringeſt down to the grave, and bringeſt up again. We thy poor Creatures (moſt infinitely obliged to be thy faithful Servants) who have ſo often ſorrowfully caſt down our ſelves before thee, to implore thy mercy towards this our afflicted Friend; do now moſt joyfully fall upon our Knees, to thank thee with one accord, for the gracious audience thou haſt given to our Prayers. Deſiring to have our hearts raiſed to as great a degree of fervent love to thee, as they were of paſſionate deſires that thou wouldeſt ſpare *him* * from going down to the grave. 1 Sam. 2. 8.

* Or Her.

Bleſſed be God, who *hath not turned away our prayer, nor his mercy from us.* Bleſſed be God for preſerving our dear Friend, who is ſtill in the land of the living. Bleſſed be thy wonderful Goodneſs (which we will never forget) who haſt, in ſome meaſure, turned our heavineſs into joy, and our mourning into gladneſs. Bleſ-

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ſed be thy Goodneſs, who haſt begun to lift *him* up from the Gates of Death, and reſtored *him* to ſome degree of health. Yea, bleſſed be that Goodneſs, which did not forſake *him* in *his* ſickneſs; but viſited *him* with comforts from above, ſupported *him* in patience and ſubmiſſion to thy Will, ſent *him* ſeaſonable relief, and proſpered the endeavours of thoſe, who conſulted for *his* preſervation.

We hope we ſhall never ceaſe to ſpeak of thy loving kindneſs; but be ſtill praiſing thee, whoſe mercy endures for ever. Who we hope alſo will proceed to conſummate thy mercy towards *him* by raiſing *him* up to praiſe thee together with us, in perfect health of Body, and vigour of Mind, and cheerfulneſs of Spirit.

For which end be pleaſed ſtill to direct and bleſs the Medicines that are preſcribed for the perfecting of *his* Cure. Succeed them, O Lord, that *he* may be able at laſt to go into thy Houſe, to offer thee an oblation with great

great gladneſs; and to bleſs thy holy Name for thy wonderful works towards him, and towards the Children of men: through Jeſus Chriſt our Bleſſed Saviour, to whom with thee, and the holy Ghoſt, be all Honour and Glory, World without end. *Amen.*

IF *God be pleaſed to reſtore the ſick perſon to a ſtate of Health, publick Thankſgiving ought to be rendred to Almighty* GOD *for it. And together with the* Sacrifice of Praiſe, which is the fruit of *our* lips (*Heb.* 13. 15, 16.) *he ought not to* forget to do good and to communicate *to them that are in miſery:* for with ſuch Sacrifices GOD is well pleaſed. *And to preſerve a grateful remembrance of* GOD's mercy; *here follows a Form of Thanſgiving to be uſed in private by himſelf, and by his friends, that are concerned in his Recovery.*

A Thankſgiving after Recovery from a Sickneſs, *to be ſaid by the Perſon himſelf who is reſtored to health.*

O God, the Fountain of Life and of all good; who art continually more and more pouring forth thy benefits upon us. I thy poor Creature, whoſe life thou haſt mercifully ſpared when I deſerved to be cut off, proſtrate my ſelf in an humble ſence of thy Divine Goodneſs, to render thee my moſt hearty thanks, and to renew my vows, which I made in the day of my diſtreſs.

Bleſs the Lord, O my Soul, and all that is within me, bleſs his holy name. Bleſs the Lord O my ſoul, and forget not all his beneſits. Who forgiveth all thine iniquities: who healeth all thy diſeaſes. Who redeemed thy life from deſtruction: who crowneth thee with loving kindneſs and tender mercies,

Pſal. 103. 1, 2, 3, &c.
Pſal. 34. 8.
Pſal. 118. 17, 18.
Pſal. 111. 1

mercies. Who ſatisfieth thy mouth with good things: ſo that thy Youth is renewed like the Eagles. The Lord is merciful and gracious, ſlow to anger, and plenteous in mercy. He will not always chide; neither will he keep his anger for ever. He hath not dealt with me after my ſins; nor rewarded me according to my iniquities. But as far as the Eaſt is from the Weſt; ſo far hath he removed my tranſgreſſions from me. O taſte and ſee my Soul, how gracious the Lord is: bleſſed is the man that truſteth in him. I ſhall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord. The Lord hath chaſtened me ſore: but he hath not given me over unto death.

I will give thanks therefore *unto the Lord with my whole heart; ſecretly among the faithful, and in the Congregation.* I can do no leſs than dedicate this new life, which thou haſt beſtowed upon me, intirely to thy ſervice: reſolving to employ more vigorouſly all thoſe powers of Soul and Body,

Body, which are ſo graciouſly reſtored unto me, unto thy Honour and Glory.

For which end I moſt earneſtly deſire to have a lively ſence preſerved in my mind, of thoſe things which were moſt powerful to move my heart towards thee, in the time of my ſickneſs. O that this World may ever appear unto me, as it was then repreſented to my mind! That I may never ſet my heart too much upon theſe periſhing enjoyments, and ſhort ſatisfactions; nor ever neglect theſe, whoſe favour and grace I then ſought ſo earneſtly as my chiefeſt good: but remembring how little comfort I could find in any thing here; what a joy it was to have any hope in thee, the eternal God; and how that *in my beſt eſtate I am but altogether vanity*; I may moſt ſeriouſly apply my ſelf *to work out my ſalvation with fear and trembling*: and give all diligence to ſettle a ſtedfaſt hope in thee, that never may be ſhaken.

Make

Make me often to remember that *my days are but like a ſhadow that declineth, and that I wither like the graſs.* Pſal. 102. 11, 12, 27. *But thou, O Lord, ſhalt endure for ever, for thou art the ſame, and thy years ſhall have no end.* That ſo I may neither ſeek my happineſs in this dying life, but in thy endleſs love and favour; nor *be ſlothful in buſineſs; but fervent in ſpirit, ſerving the Lord.* Rom. 12. 11.

Bleſſed be thy goodneſs that I feel theſe holy thoughts and deſires ſtill remaining in me. Excite me, I humbly beſeech thee continually to renew them, that no Day may paſs without ſerious reflections upon thy patient and long ſuffering kindneſs towards me; upon the ſhortneſs of this life; the uncertainty of all earthly comforts; and the happineſs of having a good hope in thee, by ſtedfaſt continuance in well-doing. And let theſe thoughts be ſo deeply imprinted in my heart; that my affections

ctions may be weaned thereby from all things here below, and ſet on things above, where Chriſt is at thy right hand.

O that I may deſire and covet thoſe heavenly things for my Portion more than I do to eat and drink, or enjoy any other pleaſure of this life. Make me to rejoyce in them more than in a whole World of other comforts: and to ſtand in greater fear of loſing them than I do to die, or endure any miſery. Preſerve in me, good Lord, ſuch a ſober and conſiderate diſpoſition of mind that I may never be proud, who am, I ſee, but Duſt and Aſhes: nor confident of my own ſtrength and power, which is but weakneſs and vanity: not diſtruſtful of thee, who art ſo gracious and merciful, as well as mighty, to ſave. Suffer me not to ſink under any diſcouragements, who have the everlaſting arms under me, the Wiſdom of Heaven to direct and guide me, and the infinite Treaſures of Goodneſs to ſupply all my neceſſities. And

And more particularly, I beſeech thee to give me grace by my late confinement, weakneſs, dulneſs, want of appetite and reſt, to learn to value very highly the benefits of liberty, ſtrength and quickneſs of all my ſenſes; and to bleſs thee more than ever I have done, for the conſtant refreſhments of my food in the Day, and of undiſturbed ſleep in the Night, together with the reſt of the pleaſures of life, to which thou haſt reſtored me with my health.

Make me Perfectly contented in any ſtate and condition, whilſt I enjoy ſo great a bleſſing as that, which comprehends ſo many others in it. And when thou art pleaſed to take it again away from me; O that I may be able to be contented then alſo, in a remembrance of all thy paſt kindneſſes to me, and of a well-ſpent life, and careful improvement of this renewed health: and in hope of thy continued mercies to me in Chriſt Jeſus, even to eternal life. To which I humbly

bly beſeech thee to bring me by an unchangeable love and obedience to thee in all the changes and alterations of this mortal life; for his ſake who loved me and gave himſelf for me To whom with thy ſelf, in the Unity of the ſame Spirit; be glory everlaſting. *Amen.*

A Thankſgiving to be ſaid by the Family.

O Moſt holy, great and glorious God, the Almighty Creator of Heaven and Earth; who upholdeſt all things by the word of thy power, and governeſt the whole World with admirable wiſdom, juſtice and mercy, Thou deſerveſt the higheſt acknowledgments of all thy Creatures. The Praiſes of Angels are not worthy of thee; nor any of their thoughts equal to thy infinite Majeſty. What can we vile Creatures then ſpeak of thee; or what thoughts ſhall we frame of thy Per-

Perfections? Eſpecially of the tranſendent love, which hath moved thee in much compaſſion to conſider our weakneſſes, and help our infirmities? Thou haſt taught us by our Lord Jeſus what we ſhould think of thee; having vouchſafed to dwell among us, and make thy ſelf viſible unto us, not only as the moſt Wiſe and Mighty; but as the moſt Holy, Righteous, Gracious and Merciful Lord, who deſigneſt the greateſt Bleſſings to us.

But now that we ſee thee, we have the greateſt reaſon to abhor our ſelves in Duſt and Aſhes; when we conſider how unlike we are unto thee in thoſe excellent qualities, wherein thou haſt made thy ſelf known unto us; and how unthankful we have been unto thy Divine Goodneſs, which haſt ſo ſtrangely condeſcended unto us; who are unworthy of the leaſt regard from thee. And yet ſuch is thy tender mercy and pity towards us that thou haſt declared thy ſelf willing to entertain even the greateſt Sinners into thy favour,

vour by making them better. We our ſelves have received innumerable tokens of thy great clemency, patience and forbearance. And now lately thou haſt been pleaſed to give us a new inſtance of thy loving kindneſs, and of thy deſire to win our hearts unto thee in reſcuing one of us from going down into the Grave, and reſtoring *him* to health and ſtrength again.

The living, the living, O Lord, *ſhall praiſe thee as we do this day:* Yea, *we will bleſs thy name as long as we live,* *and ſing praiſes unto thee, as long as we have any being. We will praiſe thee, O Lord our God, with all our heart: and glorifie thy Name for evermore. For great is thy mercy towards us: and thou haſt delivered* the ſoul of thy ſervant *from the loweſt Hell. The Lord is our ſtrength and our ſong: and is become our ſalvation. The voice of joy and health is in our*

Iſai. 38. 19.
Pſal. 104. 33.
Pſal. 86. 12, 13.
Pſal. 118. 14, 15.

our dwellings: the right hand of the Lord bringeth mighty things to paſs.

O that there were ſuch an heart in every one of us, as to ſtudy ſeriouſly to know thee better, to meditate continually on thy Benefits both to our Souls and Bodies, to love thee intirely, and to endeavour to be like unto thee, which is the deſign of thy Goodneſs towards us. Empty our hearts of all other things; and make room for thy ſelf to dwell there, in wiſdom, righteouſneſs and true holineſs.

Diſpoſe every one of us to follow Jeſus Chriſt our Maſter *in lowlineſs, patience and charity; and to be ordered by the governance of his Holy Spirit; ſeeking always his Glory, and ſerving him duly in our vocation with thankſgiving.* Help us ſo to employ our time in our health, proſperity and pleaſure, that we may have nothing to trouble us in the time of ſickneſs, affliction and ſorrow: But

Common-Prayer-Book in the Commination.

we may quietly and chearfully bear what thou layeſt upon us; *looking unto Jeſus, who for the joy that was ſet before him, endure the Croſs, deſpiſing the ſhame, and is ſet down at thy right hand.*

O Bleſſed Lord, deny us not the conſtant aſſiſtance of the Holy Ghoſt, to cheriſh, confirm and ſtrengthen our holy reſolutions; to ſucceed our pious endeavours; to give us a quick ſenſe of all thy mercies, and a lively remembrance of all thy fatherly chaſtiſements; whereby we may be more and more excited to diligence, watchfulneſs and zeal in thy Service. Preſerve us from a ſlothful and negligent Spirit; and awaken in us ſuch a ſenſe of thee, and of our Duty to thee, that we may ſearch after thy will diligently and believe it heartily, and practiſe it carefully, and watch againſt all temptations heedfully, and pray fervently and frequently, and ponder ſeriouſly and thoroughly all the inſtructions we have have received from thee,

thee, and our many and great obligations to thee.

O that it may be our choice to attend on thee; and that our hearts may be ſtill with thee, when our neceſſities require our attendance to other things! That ſo we may not be too deeply engaged in the affairs of this life, to the prejudice of the eternal life of our ſouls; but we may go on to make it our great buſineſs to be truly godly, according to the Pattern which our Lord hath left us; till we be fit to be lifted up to that high and holy place where we believe he is, and ſee the Glory which thou haſt given him.

Now to him that *holdeth our ſoul in life and ſuffereth not our feet to be moved*; to the *God of our ſalvation to whom belong the iſſues from death, who hath turned our heavineſs into joy, and put off our mourning, and girded us with gladneſs*; to him *that*

Pſal. 66. 9.
68. 20.
30. 11.
Jude 25.

doth wondrous things, the only wiſe God our Saviour, be glory and Majeſty Dominion and Power, both now and ever. Amen.

A Parent's Prayer for a Sick Child.

O Lord by whoſe infinite Goodneſs I was brought into this World, and by whoſe indulgent care I have been continued here unto this time, in the enjoyment of a great many Bleſſings, of the leaſt of which I am unworthy. I thank thee that to all other comforts of this life thou haſt added the gift of this Child; whom thou haſt preſerved in its Birth and ever ſince, by a marvellous Providence, I am ſenſible that all I have is thine; and that I am but intruſted with this, as with all other good things, which I muſt return to thee whenſoever thou pleaſeſt.

Lord aſſiſt me with the Grace of thy Holy Spirit (which I know thou art

art more ready to give than any other Bleſſing) that I may reſign this Child to thee, if thou art pleaſed now to call for it; with an humble, contented, patient and thankful Mind, believing thou knoweſt better what is good for me, than I do my ſelf; and wilt certainly recompence ſuch meek and quiet ſubmiſſion to thee, with as good or better enjoyments than thoſe thou takeſt away. But if thou thinkeſt good ſtill to prolong its days, and continue it with me; (which I moſt humbly beg of thy Divine Majeſty) Behold, O Lord, the unfeigned purpoſe of my heart, faithfully to diſcharge my truſt, and to bring it up in the fear and nurture of our Lord.

Endue me with Principles of true Wiſdom and Prudence, that I may educate it aright. Help me to give it a good Example; and to uſe all diligence that it may *ſerve its generation according to thy will*, and at laſt be returned back to thee, wiſe, and pure, and juſt, and good; fit for the com-

pany of the Bleſſed in endleſs life. Unto thee, O Lord, I moſt heartily recommend both it and my ſelf; whoſe wiſdom knows where it is beſt to place thy Creatures, whether in this, or in the other World; and whoſe Goodneſs deſigns to make us happy in both. To thee, the only wiſe and good God, be all Praiſe, Honour, Glory and Thankſgiving; with Fear and Reverence, Love and chearful Obedience, both now and eternally. *Amen.*

HERE *follow Prayers and Thankſgivings on ſundry other occaſions, which we may meet withal in the courſe of our life. In which it will be fit particularly to acknowledge* GOD, *and implore his mercy towards us. And let it be remembred, as I ſaid before, that it is a part of Chriſtian Piety to take care that alms and acts of charity to others accompany our addreſſes to God. They are then certainly moſt ſeaſonable, when we deſire ſpecial favours from him*

him, or return thanks for them. And hereby (*as old* Tobias *ſaid*, 4. 9, 11.) We lay up a good treaſure for our ſelves againſt the day of neceſſity. For alms is a good gift unto all them that give it in the ſight of the moſt High.

A Prayer to be uſed by one that is going a long Journey.

O God, who art alike preſent unto all places; *who preſerveſt man and beaſt, for thou art good to all, and thy tender mercies are over all thy works. All thy works ſhall praiſe thee, O Lord, and thy Saints ſhall bleſs thee. They ſhall ſpeak of the glory of thy kingdom, and declare thy power.* Pſal. 36. 6. Pſal. 145. 9, 10.

Bleſſed be thy Name for the knowledge thou haſt given me, of thy wiſe and merciful Providence encompaſſing all Creatures. And more particularly

cularly I rejoyce in the revelation which thou haſt made of thy Fatherly love and care over us the Children of Men, in Chriſt Jeſus: *who makes his Angels miniſtring Spirits for them, that are heirs of Salvation.* In an hearty belief of thy holy Goſpel, and a ſincere reſolution to be obedient unto it in hope of that eternal life, I commit both my ſoul and body to thy moſt gracious protection: who *art the defender of all them that put their truſt in thee.*

Heb. 1: ult. Pſal. 18. 30.

I truſt thee, O Lord, with my ſelf and all belonging to me, I entirely depend on thy goodneſs, to be with me, and proſper me in the way that I go. Give thy good Angels charge of me: and eſpecially accompany me with the preſence of thy holy Spirit, to preſerve my ſoul in ſafety, from all evil thoughts, deſires or paſſions, that may any way betray me in word or deed, to offend thy Divine Majeſty. Deliver me from the danger of any evil

evil company into which I may fall: that I may not frame my ſelf to the humours of profane perſons, but by a pious and diſcreet behaviour rather reprove them. And give me grace thankfully to embrace the company of thoſe who are good, If I be bleſſed with it: that I may rejoyce in their ſociety, and improve it to my increaſe in wiſdom or pious affections towards thee.

Bleſs this habitation alſo, which I leave and all remaining in it: that at what diſtance ſoever we be one from another, we may all live and walk in the ſame Spirit of Faith, and Love, and Holineſs. Give us an happy meeting together again in this place, if it be thy good will and pleaſure, to pay thee the vows which I make of greater care and diligence in thy ſervice and greater charity towards all my neighbours. Howſoever, in the end of our pilgrimage, bring us all together into that bleſſed reſt which thou haſt prepared for thy

people, after all their travels and labours, through thy mercy in Chriſt Jeſus. To which I commend my ſelf and all mine, both now and for ever. *Amen.*

A ſhort Prayer in ones Inn, or at the end of the Journey.

BLeſſed be thy goodneſs, O Lord my Creator and continual Preſerver, by which I have been led in ſafety to this place; and am not only alive, but ſound and unmaimed. To thee, O God, will I ſing and give praiſe, who haſt *dealt ſo bountifully with me. For thou haſt delivered my ſoul from death, mine eyes from tears, and my feet from falling. I love the Lord, becauſe he hath heard my voice, and my ſupplications. Becauſe he hath inclined his ear unto me, therefore will I call upon him as long as live. I will walk alſo*

Pſal. 116. 1. 7, 8, 9. Gen. 15. 1. 17. 1.

will

with a perfect heart before the Lord; who is my ſhield, and my exceeding great reward.

Preſerve in me, I beſeech thee, a pious remembrance of all thy mercies, and of all thoſe holy reſolutions, which they excite in me. Take me ſtill into thy Almighty protection. Continue me in thy fear, and love, and faithful obedience. That, having finiſhed this journey in peace, I may return to the place from whence I came, full of thankful affections to thee, and zealouſly diſpoſed to perform my Vows, in a careful diſcharge of all the duties, which my place and relations require of me. And enable me, good Lord, ever to perform them with uprightneſs of heart and good will, as becomes the ſervant of Chriſt Jeſus.

To the ſame merciful Providence which hath watched over me all this day, I commend my ſelf, and all my Relations and Friends every where, this night; Beſeeching thee to awa-

ken in me in the morning, the ſame love, and thankfulneſs, and humble confidence, which I now find, and deſire ever to have, in my heart towards thee, my gracious Father, Saviour and deliverer. To whom be glory, honour and praiſe everlaſting. *Amen.*

A Prayer in caſe of any hurt from Thieves, or otherwiſe.

O Moſt merciful Father for ſo I ought ever to acknowledge thee, without whom, one of the ſmalleſt creatures cannot fall to the ground, and to whom we are of more value than many of them; I humbly and meekly ſubmit my ſelf to this croſs in my way, which thou in thy wiſdom haſt ſuffered to befall me. I know that thou art able to make even this, with all other things work together for my good. And therefore I beſeech thee but graciouſly

Matt. 10. 29.

ciouſly to pardon my ſins which deſerve greater puniſhment, and to preſerve my ſoul ſtill in ſafety from all murmuring and repining at thy providence, by a ſtedfaſt faith and truſt in thee, and an abſolute reſignation to thy holy will and pleaſure, and I ſhall not ceaſe to bleſs thee, and to ſpeak good of thy Name.

Help me to learn by this to live in a conſtant ſenſe of the uncertainty of all worldly hopes, to ſet my affections more perfectly on unchangeable enjoyments, and to place my happineſs only in chearful obedience and contented patience, in all eſtates and conditions of life. I remember that we are all but pilgrims and ſtrangers whilſt we are here; ſubject to many other changes and chances in this mortal life. And therefore whatſoever I, or thoſe I have left at home, may further ſuffer before my return, Lord, aſſiſt us all to take that patiently alſo: and as we have received ſo many good things from thee, to receive

ceive likewiſe that which is evil; giving thanks to thee the Father of mercies, who haſt given us ſuch a good hope of perfect ſecurity, peace and joy in our heavenly Country, when we have done and endured all thy pleaſure. In the expectation of which bleſſed ſtate I will continually rejoyce; praying thee to purifie me more and more, that I may be prepared for it, and at laſt by thy mercy enter into it, to give thee eternal praiſes. *Amen.*

A Prayer to be ſaid for a Friend in a Journey.

O God, whoſe Almighty Power, and wiſe Providence, and Omnipreſent Goodneſs, is the ſecurity, ſupport and comfort of all thoſe that know thee. It is the higheſt ſatisfaction of our ſouls to have a lively hope in thee of eternal life in the other World. And to be perſwaded

that

that thou loveſt us, and wilt take care of us, and bleſs us whilſt we continue here, and that nothing can befal us without the knowledge and conſent of thy infinite goodneſs, which gives the moſt ſolid peace and repoſe unto our ſpirits, in all the alterations and changes of this life. I rejoyce in the belief, that I live in a world, which is full of thee; that I am always under thy eye, and have thee near unto me; as to obſerve me, ſo to help, protect and defend me.

And I beſeech thee, fill thee mind of *him* *, who is now gone from me, with the ſame ſenſe of thee; that *he* may carry along with *him* every where, this ſtedfaſt faith and hope in thee, as the ſtay, the reſt and the refreſhment of *his* ſoul. How far ſoever *he be from* me, O that *he* may be nigh to thee, in frequent, ſerious thoughts of thee, and hearty love to thee, and perfect truſt in thee, and a conſtant diſpoſition of mind and will to do and be what

* Or *her*

what thou pleaſeſt. That traveling, under the ſhadow of the Almighty no harm may come to *him*: but even thoſe things which we account the greateſt miſchiefs, if they ſhall betide *him*, may be humbly accepted by us all, with fear and reverence and chearful ſubmiſſion to thee; as becomes thoſe who profeſs our ſelves thy friends, as well as thy ſervants.

No Thieves, Murderers, or other evil perſons or things, can approach *him*, I know, without thy leave: who governeſt and over-ruleſt the motions of every creature at thy pleaſure, to which we ever ought to ſubmit our own. But if thou thinkeſt good to reſtore *him* hither again untouched by any of them, Lord, help us to be ſo much the more thankful to thee; who dealeſt with us according to our own hearts deſire. O that the ſenſe of thy goodneſs then, may ſo powerfully affect our hearts; that we may be moved thereby to a greater zeal and freedom of ſpirit in thy ſervice,

and

and be the more forward to imitate thee in doing good, and ſhewing mercy to all men! O that thy benefits may never ſlip out of our minds! O that the *meditation of them may be ſweet* unto us! and we may learn thereby *to truſt in thee at all times, and pour out our hearts before thee: for thou art a refuge for us.*

Pſal. 104. 34.
62. 8.
Tob. 4. 16.
7. 12.

Now the merciful God give him *good ſucceſs in all things! The God which dwelleth in Heaven, proſper* his *journey, and the Angels of God keep* him *company!* Amen.

These laſt words may ſerve for a ſhort Ejaculation in *his* behalf at any time of the day.

A Thankſgiving after a ſafe return. *home.*

IN an humble joyful ſenſe of thy fatherly care and providence over me, ever ſince I went from this place

place (to which thou haſt brought me back in peace and ſafety) I caſt down my ſelf at thy feet, O Lord God of Heaven, praiſing thy Almighty goodneſs, with an heart full of love and devotion to Thee. It is of thy mercy alone that I am not conſumed, and becauſe thy compaſſions fail not. That I am not groaning under ſickneſs, or wounds and bruiſes in my body; nor ſighing for the loſs of my goods either at home or abroad, is to be aſcribed to that tender mercy which ſpreads it ſelf over all thy works; and hath been a covering to me night and day in every place where I have been, from I know not how many dangers. I thank thee alſo for letting me ſee the faces of my relations and friends again, and that no evil hath come nigh their dwellings: but eſpecially for preſerving my ſoul in integrity and uprightneſs before thee: and for delivering me from the power of temptations, and from wounding my conſcience, by any willful offence againſt thy Divine Majeſty.

It

It is too little to render to thee my Praiſes and Thankſgivings; I will pay thee my Vows wherein I ſtand engaged to thee; and here offer unto thee my ſelf, ſoul and body, to be made a more pure, perfect and acceptable ſacrifice unto thee through Chriſt Jeſus. Maintain, I beſeech thee, ſuch a lively and laſting remembrance of thy kindneſs in my heart, as may both provoke me to love and to good works, and alſo ſtrengthen my faith and hope in thee on all occaſions for the time to come.

I ought not to forget, now that I mention thy late deliverances, all the reſt of thy mercies: which are ſo many and ſo various, that, alaſs! we take little notice of many of them. In the conſtant and undiſturbed courſe of them, we are apt to be leſs ſenſible how much we ſtand indebted to thee for them. Yea, they have been ſo long continued to us, and we are ſo far from the beginning of them, that we are too prone to forget the head and fountain from whence they ſpring.

O,

O, how ſad is it, that we ſhould love thee leſs, becauſe thou loveſt us ſo much! and that we ſhould think the ſeldomer of thy bounty, becauſe thou conſtantly remembreſt us and doſt us good! how much ſhould we praiſe thee for our health and eaſe, if we were ſick or in pain but a few days! And yet now we praiſe thee but a little, though we are well many years. How thankful ſhould we be, if we were freed from the Devil, after he had affrighted and vexed us but one night! and yet now alaſs! we ſcarce mind thy goodneſs which perpetually preſerves us from his aſſaults.

Endue me, O God of all grace, with a more ſerious ſpirit, often reflecting and meditating upon thee, and upon thy benefits, both to my ſoul and body, for this life and that which is to come. That I may not be taught the value and number of thy bleſſings by being deprived of them; but in their conſtant uſe and enjoyment may ever duly ponder them: extolling and

praiſing

praiſing thy infinite goodneſs, with ſenſible love to thee, and delight in doing of thy Will.

For which end, I beſeech thee to endue me with power from above that I may not deceive my own ſoul with ſome paſſionate deſire, tranſports of joy or ſudden reſolutions, but deliberately, and with the full conſent of my heart devoting my ſelf to thy ſervice, I may conſcientiouſly ſtudy to improve all thy mercies to the honour and glory of thy Name, the credit of my Religion, the good and profit of my Neighbours and my own ſolid peace and comfort at preſent and eternal joy at the day of the Lord.

And bleſs all others, I beſeech thee, that deſire the ſame mercy of which thou haſt made me partaker. Receive them into thy protection: conduct them ſafely to the end of their journeys: Make them ever mindful of thy loving kindneſs, and careful to remember that every new benefit is a new bond to better obedience. Unto which

which good Lord, incline us all more and more for thy mercies ſake in Chriſt Jeſus; by whom and for whom thy glorious Name be bleſſed and praiſed for ever. *Amen.*

A Prayer to be ſaid by one going a Voyage on the Sea.

Which may be uſed with a little alteration, by his Friends for him.

O Moſt mighty Lord, *the God our ſalvation; who art the confidence of all the ends of the earth, and of them that are afar off upon the Sea:* Under whoſe powerful protection we are alike ſecure in every place; and without whoſe providence over us, we can no where be in ſafety. I am ſenſible of the tender care thou haſt long taken of me, and that I have been preſerved by thee from innumerable dangers, both in my infancy and child-

Pſal. 65. 5.

childhood and ever ſince; for which I have not thanked thee as I ought. I moſt humbly beſeech thee graciouſly to pardon this and all other my offences which might juſtly weaken my confidence in thee, did I not feel thy grace in Chriſt Jeſus, who died for us to be ſo great, as to fill my heart not only with unfeigned ſorrow for them, but with holy reſolutions to be more grateful and dutiful in time to come.

This emboldens me with an humble Faith in thy Almighty goodneſs, to commend my ſelf ſtill to the conduct, guidance and bleſſing of thy merciful Providence, O God, receive me, though a ſinful Creature, into thy favour and grace. Purge my heart from all affection to every thing that is evil; that I may not carry the ſenſe of any guilt unrepented of, along with me in my voyage: But have my heart ſettled in ſuch an unmoveable love of all piety, righteouſneſs and ſobriety of mind

and

and life, that no ſtorm or tempeſt or other danger may diſmay me and make me afraid. They are all, I know in thy hands; to which I commit my ſelf with an intire truſt in thee, that nothing ſhall hurt me while I follow that which is good.

If thou art pleaſed to bring me to my deſired haven, Lord, poſſeſs me then with theſe good thoughts and affections which I feel at preſent in my heart towards thee: That my chief joy may be in thee, and in the love I find in my heart to thee; and I may never forget thee by intemperate mirth and pleaſure in any other enjoyment. But if thou thinkeſt good otherwiſe to diſpoſe of me, thy will, O Lord, be done. I commend both my Body and my ſpirit into thy hands; who art able to make the Sea give up her dead, by thine Almighty Word.

Help me always to hold faſt that hope of eternal life *as an anchor of my*

ſoul

ſoul both ſure and ſtedfaſt Heb. 6. 19, 20.
which may preſerve me in unſhaken comfort and joy at the hour of death it ſelf. And looking up to that quiet place whither *Jeſus, our fore-runner is entred for us*, I may begin thoſe Praiſes and Thankſgivings which I hope ſhall have no end; but be continued for ever in the company of the bleſſed in the other world. Unto which I beſeech thee of thine infinite mercies to bring me through Chriſt Jeſus; who *is made an High Prieſt for ever*. Amen.

A Thankſgiving after it is finiſhed, and the party returned home again.

O Bleſſed Lord; *Thou art great and greatly to be praiſed*; for by *thy word the heavens were made: and all the hoſts of them by the breath of thy mouth. Thou didſt gather the waters of the Sea together, as an heap: and* Pſal. 48. 1. 33. 6, 7. 135. 6. 107. 24, &c.

laidſt them up in the ſtore houſes of the deeps. They are all at thy Command, and *whatſoever thou pleaſeſt, that doſt thou in Heaven and in earth, in the Seas and all deep places. I have ſeen thy works, O Lord, and thy wonders in the deep. For thou ſpeakeſt the word, and the ſtormy wind aroſe, which lifted up the waves thereof.* And again, *when we cryed unto thee, thou madeſt the ſtorm a calm, ſo that the waves thereof were ſtill.*

Bleſſed be thy Almighty Goodneſs, which carried me ſafe through ſuch great and dreadful dangers. Bleſſed be thy goodneſs, that the deep hath not ſwallowed me up, and that I am not gone down into ſilence. Bleſſed be thy goodneſs, that neither my body, nor my goods, became a prey to unreaſonable men; but that thou broughteſt me to the Haven where I would be, and haſt now returned me home in ſafety.

O God, that I may never forget the vows which I was forward to make when

when I was in trouble! Preſerve in me for ever an awful ſence and apprehenſion of thy great power, who *bringeſt the wind out of thy treaſuries; and ruleſt the raging of the Sea, and ſtilleſt the noiſe of its waves. Who would not fear thee, O Lord, who would not tremble at thy preſence? who haſt placed the ſand for the bound of the ſea, by a perpetual decree that it cannot paſs it; and though the waves thereof toſs themſelves, yet can they not prevail; though they roar, yet can they not paſs over it.* Pſal. 135. 7. 89. 9. Jer. 5. 22. Pſal. 120. 11.

O poſſeſs my heart with a greater reverence of thy divine Majeſty, that I may ever *ſerve thee with fear, and rejoyce before thee with trembling.* Eſpecially make me fearful of offending thee, who art ſo great and powerful and haſt done ſuch great things for me; and canſt do greater; and wilt do them, as thou haſt promiſed, by

Philip. 3. 20. Heb. 2. 3. Chriſt Jeſus; who hath *power to ſubdue all things to himſelf.*

Bleſſed be thy infinite grace, which haſt wrought ſuch a marvellous redemption for us by him. *How ſhall I eſcape, if I neglect ſo great ſalvation:* How miſerable ſhall I be, if, after all the dangers from which I have now been reſcued, I ſhould for my ingratitude and diſobedience be *caſt into the lake of fire and Brimſtone?* O God, that all thy mercies and deliverances here may, by a thankful remembrance and careful improvement of them, only prepare me for that glorious deliverance at the day of the Lord Jeſus! and as by thy good Providence thou haſt ſaved me from the violence of Storms and Tempeſts, and other hazards: ſo by thy Grace deliver me from the power and violence of all temptations! and enable me ſtedfaſtly to perſiſt in well doing, and patient ſuffering unto the end.

Endue

Endue me with ſuch a right ſenſe of my Religion, as may make it to be my delight; that ſo I may be out of all danger of being prevailed withal, to forſake that which is ſo ſweet and pleaſant to my Soul. O that it may be my Guide in proſperity, and my comfort in adverſity; the rule of my life, and my great ſatisfaction in Death! Sanctifie every condition unto me; that ſickneſs or health, poverty or riches, honour or diſgrace, may prove real bleſſings to me, and make me profit in Piety and Vertue. And let a great ſenſe of thee, and of Religion intermix it ſelf with all my imployments. Teach me ſo to behave my ſelf, that I may be acceptable in thy ſight, not only when I make ſuch Addreſſes as theſe unto thee; But whether I eat or drink, or whatſoever I do elſe, I may abide in thy love and be approved by thee, for a good and faithful Servant.

All which, I moſt humbly beg of thee, and whatſoever thou ſeeſt good

for me, in the Name of the Lord Jeſus; by whom, and with whom in the Unity of the Holy Ghoſt, all Honour and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, World without end.

A Prayer in a Storm.

O God, who haſt bid us in the day of trouble to call on thee; to whom alone *belong the iſſues from death.* I flee to thee for protection and ſafety in this great and dreadful diſtreſs. The Sea roars, and the Deep is ready to ſwallow me up. *The flouds O Lord, are lifted up, the flouds lift up their waves. But the Lord on high is mightier than the noiſe of many waters: yea, than the mighty waves of the Sea.*

To thy Almighty love I commit my ſelf who canſt immediately rebuke the Winds and the Sea, and turn this Storm into a Calm. I have juſtly deſerved, I know, to be caſt away, and rejected by thee, upon whom I now

now caſt my ſelf for ſafety. But, I hope thou wilt accept of my unfeigned ſorrow for all my ſins, and my unfeigned purpoſe to forſake them. Have mercy upon me, have mercy upon me, I moſt humbly beſeech thee, O moſt merciful Father, for Jeſus Chriſt his ſake; Who *decended into the lower parts of the earth* for me and is now *aſcended far above all heavens*, to ſuccour thoſe that call upon thee in his Name. For his ſake ſpare me, at leaſt from going down into utter darkneſs; and if it be thy will, from periſhing here in the deep waters. O give me the comfort of thy mercy, that though the Sea rages my heart may be quiet and ſtill.

And as I deſire to be preſerved from this preſent danger, ſo I earneſtly deſire thou wilt preſerve in me hereafter a pious dread of thy Divine Majeſty; the leaſt expreſſion of whoſe diſpleaſure I ſee in this tempeſt, is exceeding full of terrour. Awaken my ſoul perpetually by the thoughts

of it, to live a more ſober, righteous and godly life. That being ſaved from death, I may never forget thy loving kindneſs; but ſtudy as long as ever I live, to ſhew my ſelf truly thankful to thee, by ſincere and careful obedience, through our Lord Jeſus. To whom with, thee, O Father, and the Holy Ghoſt be eternal Praiſes. *Amen.*

A Thankſgiving after a Storm.

GLory, honour, thankſgiving and praiſe, be unto thee, O God my Saviour, and my mighty Deliverer. Thou art worthy of all my love, and all my ſervice, of more than I can be ever able to render to thee; who haſt made me and redeemed me, and now graciouſly preſerved me. What ſhall I return unto thee, for all the Benefits thou haſt heaped on me? I can never thank thee, never love thee [illegible] for thoſe which I have formerly

merly received; and yet *thou haſt now put a new Song into my mouth, even praiſe unto my God*, Pſal. 40. 2.

For *if the Lord had not been with me, I muſt needs acknowledge, If it had not been the Lord who protected me, when the Sea roſe up againſt me. Then he had ſwallowed me up quick, when it ſwelled and raged horribly againſt me. Then the waters had overwhelmed me, the ſtreams had gone over my ſoul. Then the proud waters had gone over my ſoul. Bleſſed be the Lord, who hath not caſt me out of his ſight, nor ſuffered all his billows and waves to paſs over me. I have eſcaped the ſtormy wind and tempeſt, the ſtorm is ceaſed, and I am eſcaped. I will ſacrifice to thee therefore the voice of thankſgiving. I will pay that which I have vowed. Salvation is of the Lord. Our help is in the Name of him who made the Heaven and the Earth.*

Pſal. 124. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.

Jonah 2. 3, 4, 7, 9.

Let the remembrance of thy mercy never ſlip out of my mind. And

make me as mindful of my own promiſes, as forward to every part of my duty, and chearful in the performance of it; that ſo I may be able to truſt in thee at all times. *When my ſoul is ready to faint within me, help me to remember thee, O Lord*; and always ſtudy to walk before thee, as thy, every way, Redeemed One. Who deſires that all thoſe who have been Partakers in the ſame Deliverance, may all expreſs the ſame thankfulneſs and *pay thee the vows which their Lips have uttered, when they were in trouble.*

O magnifie the Lord with me, and let us exalt his Name together.

Let us ſacrifice the Sacrifice of Thankſgiving, and declare his works with rejoycing.

For his merciful kindneſs is great towards us: and his truth endureth for ever. Praiſe the Lord. Amen, Amen.

A Prayer

A Prayer in time of great Thunder *and* Lightning.

O Great God, who art *wiſe in heart, and mighty in ſtrength; who removeſt the mountains, and overturneſt them in thine anger; Who ſhakeſt the Earth out of her place, and the Pillars thereof tremble; Who doſt great things paſt finding out; yea, and wonders without number.* I proſtrate my ſelf in awful adorations of thee. For *the voice of the Lord is very powerful, the voice of the Lord is full of Majeſty. The voice of the Lord rends the Air, and ſends out flames of fire.* Job 9. 4, 5, 6, &c. Pſal. 29. 4, 7.

Who would not fear thee, *O God of Glory*? who would not ſtand in awe of thee? who canſt inſtantly, I ſee *tear us in pieces, and none can deliver us.* It is of thy meer mercy, that the *Arrows thou now ſendeſt out, do not* Pſal. 50. 22. Pſal. 18. 14.

ſcatter

ſcatter us: and that thou doſt not *ſhoot out lightnings to diſcomfit us.* Bleſſed be thy Goodneſs, that we are not utterly conſumed by *the blaſt of the breath of thy noſtrils.* O that thy ſparing mercy may ſenſibly affect my heart, and move me hereafter to *ſerve thee acceptable with reverence and godly fear:* remembring that *our God is a conſuming fire.*

Pſal. 144. 6.

Heb. 12. 28.

Settle in my heart an holy dread of thee, that as I now tremble at thy voice, ſo I may always *tremble at thy word:* And not dare to offend thee, who wilt ſend thy Son, I know, one day (in a far more terrible manner than this) *with thy mighty Angels, in flaming fire, taking vengeance on them that know not thee, and obey not the Goſpel of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt.* O that my heart may be poſſeſſed now with ſuch a conſtant fear of thee, and ſuch an ardent love and devotion to thee; that at that dreadful day, when Heaven and Earth

2 Theſſ. 1. 8.

ſhall

ſhall quake, I may be able, with a good hope in thee, joyfully to expect a comfortable Sentence from thee. That when the wicked ſhall hear that voice, (more terrible than any Thunder) *Depart from me, ye curſed, into everlaſting fire, prepared for the Devil and his Angels*, I may be in the number of thoſe happy Souls, to whom our Lord will ſay; *Come, ye bleſſed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you, from the Foundation of the world.*

Which I humbly beg for his ſake, under whoſe feet thou haſt put all things in ſubjection, both in Heaven and Earth; to him with thy ſelf and the Holy Spirit, be given, as is moſt due, all Honour and Glory, all ſervice and humble obedience, both now and evermore. *Amen.*

A Prayer to be uſed by a Woman with Child.

O God, the Author of our being the Fountain of Life, and all other good; who haſt begun an excellent work in me, which no eye but thine ſees, and no hand but thy Almighty Power can finiſh. I adore thy great and glorious Majeſty in this and in all other thy works of wonder. *Thou doſt great things without number:* but art more particularly to be acknowledged in the formation of mankind, who *are fearfully and wonderfully made*, after thy own image and likeneſs.

Be pleaſed, O Lord, in thy infinite Goodneſs to perfect and compleat that which thou haſt begun. Preſerve the ſmalleſt degree of Life, which thou haſt inſpired. Beſtow upon it intireneſs of all its parts: and prepare a convenient habitation for an underſtanding Spirit, capable of the

the beſt Wiſdom, and inclinable to Vertue and Goodneſs. Prevent, good Lord, the miſcarriage of my hopes; and ripen them to a good iſſue. And the nearer they come to their full growth, ſtrengthen the more my humble truſt in thee, and ſubmiſſion to thee, and hearty deſires to encreaſe the number of thy faithful People together with my own Family.

That ought to be the chiefeſt deſire of my Soul, to be formed my ſelf in all things, according to the mind and will of thee, my God; that ſo I may be an inſtrument of doing good to others. O thou who haſt wrought many holy purpoſes and reſolutions in my heart, preſerve and confirm them, that they may not prove abortive; but bring forth continually the fruit of good living Perfect me in Knowledge, in Faith, in Love, and in Obedience. Enable me ſo diſcreetly and carefully to diſcharge the Duties of all the Relations wherein I

at

at preſent, or ſhall hereafter, ſtand; that I may be a comfort to them, and a credit to Religion. And howſoever thou diſpoſeſt of me or them, Lord, make me well contented; and in every condition to give thanks unto thee, and to rejoyce in thy holy Name, and in the hope of Eternal Life; through Chriſt Jeſus my moſt bleſſed Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

A Prayer when the time of her Travail *draweth near.*

O GOD, the Helper and Deliverer of all thoſe that truſt in thee; by whoſe Power I was formed in my Mothers Womb, by whoſe care I was brought from thence, and by whoſe merciful kindneſs I have been preſerved in many dangers ſince. I praiſe and magnifie thy great and glorious Name; and am encouraged by the remembrance of thy mercies which have been ever of old, to implore

plore thy compaſſionate help in the approaching time of my need, pain and danger.

Thou art preſent to all thy creatures, and heareſt the cries of the Beaſts of the Earth, which all wait upon thee. O be not far from me, when trouble is near: but hearken unto me, and ſave me, when I call upon thee! Shorten my pains, or lengthen my patience; which thou pleaſeſt. Bear up my Spirit in ſubmiſſion to thy Will, and in ſome humble hope that I *ſhall forget my anguiſh for joy that a man is born into the World. Forſake not the work of thy own hand:* but in due time perfect it and bring forth that which thou haſt wrought in ſecret, into the light; that we may all ſee the wonders of thy Wiſdom, and praiſe thy Goodneſs and thy Power.

John 16. 21. Pſal. 138. 8.

My Parents truſted in thee; they truſted, and thou didſt deliver them. They cry-

Pſal. 22. 4, 5.

ed

ed unto thee, and were delivered: they cried unto thee, and were not confounded. In thee likewiſe do I humbly put my truſt and confidence: which nothing diſheartens but my own great unworthineſs; by reaſon of my forgetfulneſs of thy Benefits, and unthankful returns for former mercies beſtowed upon me. But thou haſt taken care that this ſhould not diſcourage me neither, by proclaiming a gracious Pardon, by him that was born of a Woman, and died for us, unto contrite and reforming Sinners.

Accept, I beſeech thee, of my ſincere reſolutions to preſerve hereafter a more affectionate remembrance of thy love to me, and to dedicate my ſelf and all I have to thy Service, *in faith and charity, and holineſs, with ſobriety.* 1 Tim. 2. 25. Or if thou art pleaſed otherwiſe to diſpoſe of me, I reſign my ſelf heartily unto thee. Lord, receive me to a better life, where all ſighing and ſorrow

row ſhall be done away and eternal joy intirely poſſeſs our hearts. *Amen*, for Chriſt Jeſus his ſake, *Amen*.

A Prayer to the ſame purpoſe to be ſaid by her Relations.

O Moſt mighty Lord, who haſt already given us innumerable Pledges of thy love, and many Arguments to truſt in thee for ever, and to expect with quiet and patient minds the iſſue of thy wiſe and good Providence. Thou haſt reſpect to all the works of thy hands; eſpecially to the Sons of Men, and to thoſe above the reſt, who ſeek thy favour, and give thee the Glory of all thy mercies, and are reſolved to devote themſelves, and their Children, and all they have, to do thee honour in the World. We moſt humbly commend thy Servant, drawing near the time of her Travail, to thy care and bleſſing: beſeeching thee to give her a gracious

Delive-

Deliverance, and to eaſe her of the burden wherewith ſhe labours.

We our ſelves are Monuments of that Mercy, which we beg of thee. Thou broughteſt us into this World, and didſt unlooſe the Bands wherewith we were ſwadled in our mothers Womb. We have had long experience alſo of thy readineſs to ſuccour us, and to do us good ever ſince; many times beyond our deſires and hopes, and always beyond our deſervings. We dare not but commit our ſelves, and every thing belonging unto us, moſt heartily into thy hands: remembring that thou haſt the ſame Power and Goodneſs ſtill, by which we came into the light of the living; and that thou ſtill exerciſeſt them, as thy wiſdom thinks moſt meet.

We cannot deſire to be better provided for, than as thy infinite underſtanding and counſel judges moſt convenient for us. Unto that we referr our ſelves: beſeeching thee, if it be thy good pleaſure, that her deliver-

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ance may be as ſpeedy as her cries unto thee, and her patience as great and long as her pains. Thou who ripeneſt the Fruits of the Earth, and then giveſt us to gather them to our comfort; blaſt not our humble hopes of the Fruit of the Womb: But after thou haſt brought it to maturity, deliver it into our hands, as a new Pledge of thy Goodneſs to us; for which we will ever thankfully acknowledge and praiſe thy Name.

Or if thou haſt otherwiſe determined; Lord, give us grace to ſubmit to thy holy will, and to reſt ſatisfied in thy wiſe appointments, and never to diſtruſt thy Goodneſs and care over us. Yea, help us ſtill to bleſs thee, and to ſpeak good of thy Name, ſaying, *The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; bleſſed be the Name of the Lord from henceforth and for ever.* Amen.

A Prayer to be ſaid by them, when ſhe is actually in Travail.

O Father of mercies, and God of all comfort; our only help in time of need. We flee to thee for ſuccour in behalf of this thy Servant, who now expects thy mercy, in this her great diſtreſs. The ſorrows which thou threatnedſt to our firſt Parent, are come upon her; the Pangs of travail have taken hold of her. May it pleaſe thee, O Lord, to give her eaſe, by being her ſpeedy Deliverer.

As thou haſt made her conceive and haſt now brought to the Birth: ſo give her ſtrength alſo to bring forth. Support her Spirits in her labour. Bleſs the endeavours of thoſe who are to aſſiſt her. Preſerve that infant life which ſtruggles in her Womb to be delivered. And let us ſeek the work of thy hands, to all our joy and comfort.

O Bleſ-

O Bleſſed Jeſus, who thy ſelf waſt born of a Woman, make haſte to help her. Be with her in her agony. Enable her patiently to bear her pain; and humbly to depend on thy Goodneſs, for ſafety and ſalvation. And if it ſeem good to thee, ſhorten her labour, and make her the joyful Mother of a Child; to ſucceed in our place to love and ſerve thee, the Saviour of men. *Amen.*

Lord, hear our prayer: And let our cry come unto thee.

Theſe Sentences may be often repeated.

Ariſe, and help her, and deliver her for thy mercies ſake, Pſal. 44 ult.

O Saviour of the World, who by thy croſs and paſſion haſt redeemed us: ſave her and help her, we humbly beſeech thee, O Lord.

A Thankſgiving to be uſed by thoſe preſent after her ſafe Deliverance.

WE thank thee, O Father, Lord of Heaven and Earth, for thy long continued Goodneſs to us thy Creatures, who are unworthy of the leaſt of thy favours. *In thee we live and move, and have our being.* And it is only of thy mercy, that we have not lived in perpetual pain and torment, ſpending our days in ſighs and lamentations: but have enjoyed much health and eaſe, and had innumerable occaſions to praiſe thee, and to rejoyce in thee; *who loadeſt us dayly with thy benefits* Bleſſed be thy Name, O Lord, *who forgiveſt all our iniquities, and healeſt all our diſeaſes. Who redeemeſt our life from deſtruction, and crowneſt us with loving kindneſs, and tender mercies.* More particularly we thank thee, that thou haſt heard the humble ſupplications of this thy Servant; to whom thou haſt

haſt now granted a gracious deliverance, and turned her ſorrow and heavineſs, into joy and gladneſs. We thank thee that thou haſt ſent her ſeaſonable Helpers, and bleſſed their endeavours for the preſervation of her, and of the fruit of her Womb. And that thou likewiſe vouchſafeſt her all needful things for her refreſhment in this weak condition wherein ſhe lies; waiting upon thee for the perfecting of thy mercies towards her.

Accept, we beſeech thee, of our hearty acknowledgments, of thy powerful and good Providence over her, and over any perſon here preſent in the like neceſſity; which we now thankfully call to mind, and deſire may never be forgotten. O that a lively remembrance of this and all other thy mercies, may ſo mightily affect our hearts, that we may be moved thereby to fear thee, all our days, and to love thee, and to put our truſt in thee, and with quiet and

reſigned minds to caſt all our burdens and cares on thee, in a conſtant and chearful obedience to all thy holy commands.

And ſince thou haſt begun to be ſo gracious to this thy Handmaid, grant unto her and her relations further favour; *and finiſh their life in health, with joy and mercy.* Tob. 8. 16. Renew her ſtrength daily: and as that encreaſeth; ſo make her thankfulneſs and pious affections towards thee, and ſerious reſolutions to obey thee faithfully, grow up together therewith.

Refreſh her Spirit, while ſhe lieth on this bed of weakneſs, with many heavenly thoughts and delightful meditations of all thy mercies towards her, and towards Mankind; eſpecially with a ſenſe of thy wonderful love in Chriſt Jeſus; who was pleaſed to be born of a Woman, and to become like one of us; that we might be aſſured of thy care over us in every condition, and be made thy children,

and

and at laſt the Heirs of everlaſting life. And when ſhe hath recovered her former ſtrength, make her to feel this love ſtill more powerful in her heart; exciting her to ſerve thee carefully in all righteouſneſs, ſobriety, modeſty, devotion and readineſs to aſſiſt others, eſpecially the poor and needy, in the ſame diſtreſs wherein ſhe hath been her ſelf.

We commend likewiſe this little one, which thou haſt bleſſed her withall, unto thy tender care and fatherly love; beſeeching thee, that it may live to be dedicated unto thee, and to be inſtructed in the knowledge of thee, and to praiſe thee, as we now do, for bringing it into the World; and for making it Partaker likewiſe of thy Grace in Chriſt Jeſus. Or if it ſhall ſeem good to thee, to let either of them fall into any further danger, enable her to endure it with patient ſubmiſſion to thee: truſting even in death it ſelf, in thy good providence, and in thy precious promiſes, who

never faileſt thoſe that faithfully ſeek thee.

Hear us, O Father of mercies, and pardon our offences: pitty our infirmities: make us more thankful for what we have received; and more fit for thy future mercies, either in this life, or in the next, through thy infinite love declared to us in Chriſt Jeſus; in whoſe holy words we conclude our Prayers, ſaying, as he hath taught us,

Our Father, &c.

A Thankſgiving to be uſed by the perſon her ſelf, when ſhe is able.

UNto thee, O God, *do I give thanks, unto the do I give thanks: for*
Pſal. 75. 1. *that thou art near, thy*
18. 6. *wondrous works declare. In my diſtreſs I called upon*
34. 4. *thee, and my cry came*
138. 3. *unto thee. I ſought thee,*

O

O Lord, and thou heardeſt me, and deliveredſt me from all my fears. In the day when I cried, thou anſweredſt me, and ſtrengthnedſt me with ſtrength in my ſoul. Thou haſt brought up my ſoul from the grave: thou haſt kept me alive, that I ſhould not go down to the pit. Bleſſed be God, which hath not turned away my prayer, nor his mercy from me. Bleſſed be God, who hath preſerved the Fruit of my Womb, and made me the joyful Mother of a Child. *Thy vows are upon me, O God, I will render praiſe unto thee. I will ſing unto the Lord as long as I live: I will ſing praiſes unto my God, while I have any being. My meditation of him ſhall be ſweet, I will be glad in the Lord.* 30. 3. 66. 20. 56. 12. 104. 33, 34.

Accept, O moſt merciful Father, of theſe thankful acknowledgements; *which go not forth out of feigned lips.* And be pleaſed graciouſly to preſerve ſuch a laſting and freſh remembrance Pſal. 17. 2. 57. 2.

of thy great mercies in my heart; that I may always be joyful in thee, and ſpeak good of thy Name, and truſt in thee at all times, and ſtill *cry unto thee, O God moſt high, who performeſt all things for me.* Make me ſtudious likewiſe, and forward to bring forth all the fruits of righteouſneſs, throughout the whole courſe of my life; which may witneſs the truth and ſincerity of my thankfulneſs to thee.

O that I may never be leſs earneſt and fervent in the return of obedience, than I have been in deſires and prayers to receive thy Bleſſing! Diſpoſe me to have a kind and tender care of this Infant, which thou haſt committed to my charge. Make me willing to undergo to the utmoſt of my power, the pains that accompany its education. Let not the love of eaſe and pleaſure breed in me an averſeneſs to any Duty, to which both Nature and Religion incline me: or give me Grace, by ſober thoughts, and a thankful remembrance of thee

late

late pain from which thou haſt delivered me, to overcome it.

Eſpecially endue me with the greateſt love to its precious and immortal Soul. And help me ſo to grow and encreaſe in Chriſtian Wiſdom and Goodneſs, that I may be able to inſtruct it when it is capable, in the fear of our Lord; and by meek and gentle admonitions, together with a good example in all things, to win it to the love of true Godlineſs. Or if thou art pleaſed to take it from me, who deſerve not the leaſt of thy mercies; Lord, ſo moderate my affections, and bring them in ſubjection to thee, that I may not undutifully repine at thy Providence, but in an humble adoration of thy unſearchable Wiſdom, and a ſtedfaſt confidence of thy good Will towards me, reſign it unto thee, from whom I received it.

And I alſo beſeech thy Divine Goodneſs, when thou ſhalt reſtore me to the publick Aſſemblies of thy Peo-

ple again, to give me grace to receive that mercy with exceeding joy. Prepare my heart with an enlarged affection to offer unto thee not only the Sacrifice of praiſe, giving thanks unto thy Name; but all other oblations which ought to accompany ſuch addreſſes to thy glorious Majeſty. That they may be but an earneſt of my future diligence and zeal in thy Divine Service, and of my readineſs to do good, and communicate unto others; whereby I may *lay up in ſtore for my ſelf a good foundation againſt the time to come, that I may lay hold on eternal life*, through Jeſus Chriſt. *Amen.*

1 Tim. 6. 19.

A Prayer for good ſucceſs in ſome extraordinary buſineſs.

ALmighty and moſt merciful Father, the ſupreme Governour of the whole World: who diſpoſeſt and ordereſt all things in Heaven and Earth

Earth with admirable judgment; and canſt not poſſibly erre in what thou doeſt; nor fail of what thou deſigneſt. I adore in the humbleſt reverence of my Soul thy moſt glorious Majeſty; thy eternal Power, Holineſs, Goodneſs and Truth, which are all beyond my comprehenſion. And more particularly I adore thy unſpotted Juſtice, and all ſeeing Wiſdom, which penetrates into the deepeſt Secrets, and ſpies out all the ways of the Sons of men, and renders to every one of them according to their doings.

I know, O Lord, that the way of man is not in himſelf: it is not in man that walketh to direct his ſteps. Jer. 10. 23. Prov. 16. 9. 19. 21. Tob. 4. 19. The ſucceſs of all our counſels and actions depends on thy pleaſure; and when we have *deviſed the way* we intend to go, thou giveſt it what iſſues ſeems good in thine eyes. *There are many devices in a man's heart; nevertheleſs thy coun-*

ſel, O Lord, that ſhall ſtand. I will therefore *bleſs thee, O Lord my God, alway, and deſire of thee that my ways may be directed, and that all my paths and counſels may proſper: for thou thy ſelf giveſt all good things, and thou humbleſt whom thou wilt, and as thou wilt.*

Accordingly I now moſt earneſtly recommend my ſelf, and all my concerns to thee; who haſt bid me *in all my ways acknowledge thee, and thou wilt direct my paths.* *I truſt* in thy wiſe and good Providence *with all my heart, and lean not unto mine own underſtanding.* I hope in thy mercy that thou wilt ſo direct, aſſiſt and proſper all my thoughts, deſigns and endeavours, that they may attain their deſired end.

Prov. 3. 5, 6.

And above all things, I deſire that I may have grace to deſign and ſeek for nothing but what is juſt and honeſt, pious and charitable, praiſeworthy and of good report. Bleſs me,

me, good Lord, with that integrity of heart, in which thou ſo much delighteſt: and then bleſs me with wiſdom and good underſtanding in all my affairs, that *I may guide them with diſcretion.* For *it is thou that leadeſt into wiſdom, and directeſt the wiſe. In thy hand are both we and our words: all Wiſdom alſo and knowledge of workmanſhip.* Leave me not therefore; *O Lord Father and Governour of all my whole life,* leave me not to my ſelf alone: but *ſend out thy wiſdom from the throne of thy glory, that being preſent ſhe may labour with me. And turn away from me vain hopes.* Endue me alſo with a patient, contented and untroubled Spirit, that I may wait on thee as long as thou pleaſeſt: and whatſoever the event ſhall be, enable me to rejoyce in thee as my portion, and to reſt perfectly ſatisfied in thy love, and in the aſſured hope of good things in the other World.

Wiſd. 7. 15, 16. 9. 10. Eccluſ. 23. 1, 5.

I hum-

I humbly recommend likewiſe to thy merciful guidance, all thoſe with whom I have entruſted any of my concerns; that they may manage all their undertakings with skill and prudence, juſtice and fidelity; and do for me, as they would that I or others ſhould do for them. Make us all ever mindful, that *all our works are as the Sun before thee, and thy eyes are continually upon our ways*; that we may never dare to do any thing but what thou approveſt, and of which we may give a comfortable account, at the Great Day of Judgment.

Eccluſ. 17. 19.
Epheſ 3. 20.
Ro. 16. 25, 27.

Now unto him that is of power to do for me exceeding abundantly above all that I ask or think, to God only wiſe, be Glory through Jeſus Chriſt for ever. Amen.

A Pray-

A Prayer when one intends to live Unmarried.

O Lord, the Lover of Souls; for whom they were made, and in whom alone they can be happy: *There is none I have in heaven but thee, nor on earth that I desire besides thee.* Psal. 23. 25. Who art the Perfection of Wisdom, Power and Goodness; and the Fountain of all the good that is in us. Thou art able to raise us to what degree of Wisdom, Strength and Goodness thou pleasest: and hast promised us thine assistance to make us like unto thee: and assured us we shall be immortally blessed, by a glorious participation of thee. Thou drawest us so mightily, that we have no power to resist thee; when our Minds turn themselves towards thee, and reflect upon thy most excellent Nature, which, discovers it self, in all thy Bounty to us, and the rest of thy Creatures.

We

We cannot but love thee, when we think of thee, and when we love thee, we cannot but again think of thee, that we may have the pleaſure ſtill of loving thee more. O fix my mind, I beſeech thee, in a more ſtedfaſt contemplation of this, and of all thy gracious communications to me, that I may ſpend my days delightfully in a perpetual meditation of thy mercies, which I have received in ſuch abundance from thee!

There is nothing I know more natural and more eaſie, than to think of the kindneſſes of thoſe that love us; eſpecially theirs to whom we bear a mutual love. O how great, how free and undeſerved is thy love to us! What infinite reaſon is there that we ſhould love thee with all our heart, and with all our ſoul, and with all our ſtrength! Inſpire me, O God, with ſuch a lively ſenſe of thy Goodneſs in my Creation, and ever ſince both to my Soul and to my Body, that I may ever preſerve a ſweeat and grateful

grateful remembrance of it; and may feel it provoking me daily to commemorate thy loving kindneſs, with the moſt ardent love of thee, my moſt bountiful Benefactor. O that I could love thee, in every thing that I ſee and enjoy! and being led by it to the thoughts of thy admirable Wiſdom, which aſhoniſhes us, in the leaſt of thy Creatures; and of thy matchleſs Goodneſs, which hath provided ſuch variety of pleaſures for all our ſenſes.

Poſſeſs me with a great and ſtrong admiration of the excellency of wiſdom; that I may *be a lover of her beauty, and ſeek her out from my youth; deſiring to marry her to my ſelf. For thou the Lord of all things, thy ſelf, loveſt her: And thereſore I purpoſe to take her to live with me; knowing that ſhe will be a counſellor of good things, and a comfort in cares and grief.* But eſpecially over-power my heart with a ſtrong and laſting ſenſe of thy exceeding abundant kindneſs in Chriſt Jeſus; *in* Wiſd. 8. 2, 3, 9.

whom

Ephes. 1, 4, 8. *whom thou haſt choſen me, that I ſhould be holy, and without blame before thee in love.* Let me never think of that, but with ſuch great tranſports of love and joy, and thankfulneſs unto thee, as may make me then forget all other things. And make me to underſtand more and more how thy love in him *hath abounded towards us in all wiſdom and prudence.* That ſo I may be the more moved to admire it, and delight to meditate upon it, and be ſtill ſearching into thoſe Treaſures of thy Wiſdom, and unſearchable Riches of thy Grace: till I come *to be filled with all the fullneſs of thee,* my God.

Ephes. 3. 19.

Tranſlate all my affections from theſe lower objects, to him that is *fairer then the children of men*; who loved me ſo much as to die for me; who is riſen again, and ſits at thy right hand in incomparable Majeſty and Glory. Raiſe up my thoughts as high as that heavenly

Pſal. 45. 2.

heavenly place where he is, and where I hope one day to be; *equal to the Angels, who neither marry, nor are given in marriage.* Luke 20. 16.

Help me to begin that happy ſtate in ſeparating my ſelf frequently from all this World, and joyning with that bleſſed Company above, in praiſing thee, and giving thanks unto thee; whoſe mercies are great, and endure for ever.

And when I am about any other employment; help me chearfully to attend it; and with a willing mind to perform the Duties belonging to it. Poſſeſs me with ſuch an hatred of idleneſs and ſloth, that I may always be buſied about ſome good or innocent thing. Eſpecially diſpoſe me to exerciſe my ſelf in works of mercy and charity; and to take all opportunities of doing good, to the Bodies or Souls of my Neighbours.

Endue me with prudence and diſcretion in the choice of my Company and Friends: and give me Wiſdom to improve

improve their Society to the beſt purpoſes. Make my mind more heavenly: and when any thoughts contrary to my inclinations and reſolution ariſe in me, turn them immediately to thy ſelf, and my bleſſed Saviour. Open my eyes to behold the things that are not ſeen; and put out the ſplendor of all thoſe things that dazle our eyes here, by the appearance of a brighter and more glorious good. Which may raiſe my deſigns higher than this World; and make all my paſſions and affections more equal and moderate; my diſcourſe more profitable; my behaviour more humble, modeſt, and ſuch as becometh Saints; and all my actions more conformable to thy Will, and more exemplary to thoſe whom I converſe withal. *The very God of peace ſanctifie me wholly; and preſerve my whole ſpirit, and ſoul, and body blameleſs unto the coming of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt.*

1 Theſſ. 5. 23.

O that my love to any thing here may not turn into wantonneſs and folly;

ly; nor my joy and chearfulneſs, into lightneſs and vanity; nor my ſeriouſneſs or ſorrow, into melancholy and diſcontent; nor my juſt anger, into hatred and contention; nor induſtry in my buſineſs, into carefulneſs, diſtruſt and earthlineſs of mind; nor my diſcretion and prudence, into craft, diſſembling and deceit!

Diſpoſe my heart, that I may ſo mind heavenly things, as to be very humble and lowly in my own eyes; and be ſo humble and ſenſible of my own unworthineſs and weakneſs, as to make my addreſſes to thee continually, with the greater earneſtneſs, for thy merciful help and ſupply. Teach me ſo to pray and call upon thee, as to labour and ſtrive my ſelf; and ſo to labour and run, that I may obtain. Let Faith in thy good Providence and precious Promiſes be my comfort; and hope of thy Glory make me rejoice, and a great love to thee make me unwearied, and fill me with the conſolations of the Holy Ghoſt.

O that

O that my Religion may become my Nature; ſo that it may not be my burden or trouble: and help me ſo to look upon it as my Duty, as withall to account it my honour, priviledge and happineſs.

O that I may never deſire any thing but to be ſo pure as thou wouldeſt have me; and to enjoy thoſe rewards of holineſs, which thou canſt and wilt beſtow upon me. This is the ſumm of my deſires; that whatſoever I do may pleaſe thee, and whatſoever thou doſt may be pleaſing to me. Lord, hear me, and anſwer me graciouſly. And if I ſhall ſee any cauſe hereafter to change my condition, preſerve in me an unchangeable love to thee above all things. That ſtill I may pleaſe thee, and be acceptable in thy ſight; delighting my ſelf in wiſdom, and *repoſing my ſelf with her, for her converſation hath no bitterneſs, and to live with her hath no ſorrow, but mirth and joy.* In which happineſs, the Lord vouchſafe

Wiſd. 8. 6.

to

to keep me, whatever my condition be, for Jeſus his ſake, to whom with thee, O Father, and thy Bleſſed Spirit, be everlaſting Praiſes. *Amen.*

A ſhorter to be added at any time to other Devotions.

O Bleſſed Jeſus, who cameſt down from Heaven in the moſt familiar manner to us; and kept'ſt thy ſelf unſpotted from the World, while thou hadſt the moſt free converſation in it. I commend my ſelf to thy gracious protection, guidance and bleſſing: beſeeching thee to preſerve me *holy both in body and ſpirit*, while I live among men, and am not retired from them.

I deſire chiefly to *care for thoſe things that belong to thee our Lord, how I may pleaſe thee, and attend upon thee without diſtraction:* Favour therefore I humbly intreat thee, theſe pi- 1 Cor. 7. 32, 34, 35.

ous

ous inclinations. I know how weak our nature is; and therefore the more earneſtly deſire thee to keep my heart ſtedfaſt in this purpoſe, if thou ſeeſt it beſt for me. Help me to employ my thoughts chearfully and conſtantly in heavenly things. Fill me with great devotion to thee; that when I am employed in other affairs, and am in other Company, they may not draw my heart too ſtrongly to them: but I may ſtill remain fixed in what I have decreed: to be freed from all other cares, that I may more entirely ſerve thee.

Give thy holy Angels a ſpecial Charge of me. Let thy bleſſed Spirit powerfully aſſiſt me. Turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity. Incline me alway to *adorn my ſelf in modeſt apparel with ſhamefac'dneſs and ſobriety:* ſtudying rather to approve my ſelf to thee in good works, than to appear beautiful before Men.

1 Tim. 2. 9.

Be thou my Love, my Satisfaction, my Joy, my hearts Delight. Never abſent thy ſelf from me, nor leave me to follow any of my own paſſions: but conduct me pure and undefiled to the Company of thoſe bleſſed Virgins and holy ones, who reign with thee for ever. *Amen, Lord Jeſus.*

I pray God my whole Spirit, and Soul and Body be preſerved blameleſs unto the coming of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, 1 Theſſ. 5. 23.

A Prayer when there are any thoughts of changing that condition, and deliberations about Marriage.

O Lord, my moſt gracious and merciful Father of whoſe tender care and good Providence I have had ſo long and abundant experience, that I ſhould be extremely ungrateful if I ſhould not acknowledge thee, and love thee, and truſt in thee, and upon

on all occaſions call upon thee, and ſeek thy favour for ever. There hath no day paſſed ſince I came into the World, but It hath brought along with it many tokens of thy love, which thou art ſtill renewing in every moment of my life. By thee I have been carried through all the dangers of infancy and childhood, unto this Age of underſtanding and reaſon. And thou haſt bleſſed me many ways ſince that time; eſpecially with ſome remembrance and ſenſe of thy ſelf, from whom I came, and on whom I depend; which I account the greateſt benefit of all. Bleſſed be thy Goodneſs that I am not a perfect Stranger to thee: but that thou haſt made me to know ſomething of thee, and of thy infinite Goodneſs; who alone art able to make me happy, both here and eternally.

I hope in thee O my God, that thou wilt never forſake me, but be my Guide even unto Death. Pardon, I beſeech thee, all the ſins and negligences,

gences, of which I have been at any time guilty: and let them not hinder the continuance of thy mercy and favour towards me on which all the comfort of my life depends. Leave me not to my ſelf, and the weakneſs of my own counſels; eſpecially now in the greateſt turn and change of my life: but vouchſafe to direct my thoughts, and all the motions of my heart aright, to that which will be moſt profitable for me and conduce every way to my future comfort and ſatisfaction.

Lead me in the way wherein I ſhall go; and guide me for thy Name's ſake. Endue me with ſuch a ſerious, conſiderate and diſcerning Spirit, that I may not follow the enticements of any fading and periſhing Good: but cleave to that which is unchangeable, and never dies. *Favour*, thou haſt taught me, *is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but one that feareth the Lord ſhall be praiſed.* Prov. 31. 30. O poſſeſs my heart with

an holy fear of thee: that nothing may appear ſo amiable in my Eyes, as true Religion, Piety and Vertue! Make me in love with the Beauties of Wiſdom, (*for thou loveſt none, but him that dwelleth with wiſdom to be allied unto which is immortality; and great pleaſure, I know, it is, to have her friendſhip*) and with the beauties of ſobriety, meekneſs, mercifulneſs, humility, and all thoſe things which are the Image of thy Goodneſs, That being inclined by theſe in my choice, I may find a fit perſon to be the Guide of my Youth [*or an help meet for me*] the delight of mine eyes; in whoſe Society I may enjoy a conſtant relief, eaſe and pleaſure, and be ſet forward thereby in the way to Heaven.

Wiſd. 7. 28. 8. 17, 18.

Aſſiſt me, I beſeech thee, in all my deliberations about this change; that I may ſoberly weigh every thing which is offered to my thoughts. And after all the dangers which, by thy Goodneſs, I have eſcaped, I may not be

be ſo unhappy now, as to fall into the ſaddeſt of all; by the ſtrength of fancy by raſhneſs and unadviſedneſs of mind, or the violence and unrulineſs of any paſſion: but may diſpoſe of my affections to a perſon worthy of them. Help me, bleſſed Lord, to make ſo wide a choice that I may never repent of it afterward.

Direct and govern likewiſe the minds and hearts of all thoſe [*Parents or Friends*] that tranſact any thing on my behalf. That they may have a reſpect chiefly to thoſe things which endure for ever: and ſettle me there, where I may moſt glorifie thee, and do moſt good, and encreaſe in wiſdom and vertue, and live in peace, chearfulneſs and contentment to the end of my days. Which mercies, and all others, that thou ſeeſt requiſite for me I moſt humbly beg of thee for Jeſus Chriſt his ſake, the Lord of peace; to whom, with thy ſelf, and good Spirit, I deſire to give, as is moſt due, eternal praiſes. *Amen.*

A Prayer when a perſon is about to enter into the ſtate of Marriage; [*and may ſerve for any other new condition of life.*

O Lord, the Guide and Director, the Helper and Comforter of all thoſe that ſeek thee, and depend upon thee with their whole heart. In a ſerious ſenſe that nothing can make me happy without thy love, favour and bleſſing, I humbly caſt down my ſelf before thy Divine Majeſty: imploring thy gracious preſence with me, to inſtruct, govern and aſſiſt me in that condition, into which, under the conduct and protection of thy good providence, I am about to enter.

Great and many have been thy mercies towards me hitherto, ever ſince I was taken by thee out of my mother's womb. Thou haſt nouriſhed and cloathed me: Thou haſt brought me up to ſome knowledge of thee, and of

of the duty I owe thee: thou haſt ſhewn me the path of life, and prevented me early with thy Grace, to diſpoſe my heart to walk in it. And, though I have not made, I moſt ſorrowfully confeſs, ſuch returns unto thee as I ought to have done, yet it is ſome comfort to me, to feel my heart inclined and reſolved to be more thankful and dutiful hereafter; and to paſs the remaining part of my ſojourning here in thy fear and love, and ſtedfaſt obedience.

Pardon me therefore, O moſt merciful Father, according to thy promiſes made in Chriſt Jeſus, to penitent ſinners, and vouchſafe me the grace of thy holy Spirit, to lead me to a clear and full underſtanding of all the duties that belong to the ſtate and relations in which I have now choſen to ſerve thee. Endue me with a ſincere and hearty affection to them; and enable me carefully to perform them with a willing mind, and a chearful unwearied ſpirit, as long as thou

thinkeſt fit to continue me in that condition of life. Bleſs me with a wiſe and obſervant heart, to diſcern and mark the Nature and diſpoſitions of thoſe to whom I ſhall be joyned, in any bonds of love or duty: That I may delight to pleaſe them to the utmoſt of my power; and ſtudy their content and ſatisfaction; and bear with their infirmities: and chuſe the fitteſt opportunities: to do them good and amend what is amiſs in them.

Free us all, who ſhall ſtand related to each other, from all peeviſhneſs and unreaſonable Paſſions; let no miſtake or cauſeleſs jealouſie ſpoil the entireneſs of our affection; endue us with great purity of heart, and a chaſt converſation: and beſtow upon ſuch meek, ſweet and compliant diſpoſitions, that this may not prove a ſtate of temptation and ſorrow, but of godlineſs and holineſs, to our mutual joy and happineſs.

Make us ever mindful of the Covenant wherein we ſtand engaged to each

each other; eſpecially of that ſacred Vow wherein we ſtand bound to thee, by our being baptized into the Name of Jeſus Chriſt; that we may faithfully keep and perform it. Tye us ſo faſt together in unity of ſpirit that we may have the ſame common cares; and bear one anothers burdens; and endeavour to increaſe each others joys, and lighten each others ſorrows: and in all the changes and alterations of our condition we may religiouſly preſerve an immutuable love unto and delight in each other, to the end of our days.

Eſpecially help us to ſtir up one another to the love of thee and our bleſſed Saviour; and to do all good officies to our neighbours: that after we have enjoyed the comfort of a ſweet ſociety, and been a bleſſing to all that are near unto us we may finally part in peace, and reſt in a good hope to dwell together for ever, in happy friendſhip with thee, and with our Lord and all the holy ones. *Amen. Amen.*

A Prayer of Parents for their Children *when they are grown up to ſome underſtanding.*

WE humbly worſhip thy glorious Majeſty, O Lord moſt high; we acknowledge thy infinite goodneſs, that thou art pleaſed to give us leave to call thee Father, who art the Poſſeſſor of Heaven and of Earth. We thank thee for thy moſt tender care over us ever ſince we were born. More eſpecially for the knowledge thou haſt given us of thy great love in Jeſus Chriſt: and that thou haſt ſo timely prevented us with thy grace; and inclined our hearts to thy fear, and love, and ſervice.

Vouchſafe, we beſeech thee, O moſt merciful Father, to take our Children alſo (which we have already dedicated unto thee, and commended to thy care) into the protection and guidance of the ſame gracious providence, which hath been ſo watchful over

over us. Thou knoweſt the great weakneſs of our nature; how fooliſh and inconſiderate we are (eſpecially in our younger years;) how violent in our paſſions; how apt to liſten to temptations, and eaſie to be ſeduced by them; how ready to flatter and abuſe our ſelves with vain hopes; and how unwilling to believe what is contrary to our deſires. And therefore we the more earneſtly implore thy bleſſing upon our endeavours, to ſeaſon their minds betime with a Religious ſenſe of thee their Creator, and of their duty which they owe thee, and of that good in which their true happineſs lies.

And we beſeech thee likewiſe to excite our hearts to the greater diligence and thoughtfulneſs and care, to imitate thy fatherly love towards our ſelves; by watching over them to do them good, and to train them up in thy fear. Endue us with wiſdom and prudence to give them wholeſome and ſeaſonable inſtructions; and diſ-

poſe their hearts to receive and remember them. Help us to govern exactly all our affections and paſſions; that we may neither embolden them to any thing that is evil by too much indulgence, nor diſcourage them in their duty by too much ſeverity: but be examples of godlineſs and vertue to them, by a ſober, grave, gentle, humble and devout behaviour and converſation.

Work in them a great reverence to all their Governous, Teachers, and ſpiritual Paſtors; and bleſs their godly admonitions to them, that they may follow and obey them. Direct us alſo in the choice of fit perſons to aſſit us in their Education; and in the choice of fit employments for them; whereby they may prove uſeful and profitable members of Church and State.

Bleſſed be thy goodneſs that they have eſcaped the dangers of infancy and childhood. Good Lord, preſerve them from all the evil and miſchief

chief to which the raſhneſs and indiſcretion of youth may betray them; And fortifie their minds againſt the power of all allurements to ſin; that we may live to ſee them thy dutiful and obedient children, and may leave the world in hope that they will continue ſo unto their lives end.

Or if thou takeſt us away before they come to their full age, we commend them with the more ardent affection to thy never failing mercy and compaſſion. O thou who art *the Father of the fatherleſs* be their God; and let them *find mercy with thee*, according to thy word. Diſpoſe of them ſo, that by loving and careful Governours, holy examples, innocent and good company, pious and diſcreet counſels, with the help of thy divine grace, they may ever be ſecured in their duty, and follow after us to eternal life: through Chriſt Jeſus. *Amen.*

Pſal. 68. 5.

Hoſ. 14. 3.

A ſhort Prayer for the uſe of a little Child.

O Lord, my moſt loving Saviour and merciful Redeemer; who commandeſt that the little children ſhould come unto thee, and didſt take them up in thine Arms, lay thy hands upon them, and bleſs them: Look graciouſly upon me, I humbly beſeech thee, and bleſs me, who am one of thy children, dedicated to thy ſervice. Pity the weakneſs of my tender age, and prevent me betimes, with thy grace. Make me ſeriouſly to remember my Creator in the days of my youth. Endue me with the fear of my God; and make me always mindful of the Vow and Promiſe that was made in my name, when I was baptized; *to forſake the Devil and all his works, to believe in God and to ſerve him.*

Make me dutiful (as thou O Lord Jeſus waſt) unto my Parents [*loving*

to

to my Brethren and Siſters] obedient to my Inſtructors; thankful for the good counſel of my friends: humble and reverent to my Betters: and meek and gentle to all men. That as I grow in years, ſo I may grow in wiſdom and favour with thee, and with all thoſe who are good.

Preſerve me from all dangers; let thy good Angels be my keepers and defenders; and guide me by thy holy Spirit, that the longer I live, the better I may be, to the comfort of my Parents, the honour and glory of my God, and my own happineſs, here and for ever. *Amen.*

Our Father, &c.

A ſhorter.

HEavenly Father who diſpiſeſt nothing that thou haſt made, but takeſt care of the beaſts of the Earth, and of the Fowls of the Air: bleſs

bleſs me thy child, whom thou haſt made in thy Image, and adopted for thy own by thy grace in Chriſt. Preſerve me this day from all evil, both in ſoul and body, give me what thou ſeeſt good for me. Eſpecially an heart to know thee early, to be thankful to thee, to love thee, and to do thy will, as well as I am able. Bleſs my Father and my Mother, and all my friends and make me a follower of thoſe who are good; for the ſake of my Saviour Chriſt Jeſus the Lord. *Amen.*

Our Father, &c.

A Prayer for the uſe of a Child that hath loſt its Parents.

O Lord who never faileſt thoſe that ſeek thee: but *giveſt to the beaſt his food, and to the young ravens which cry.* Pſal. 147. 9. I caſt my ſelf upon thy infinite goodneſs,

goodneſs, with whom the fatherleſs have been wont to find mercy. Be thou *O Lord, Father and God of my life*, a moſt merciful and gracious Father unto me: and provide what thou ſeeſt, in thy wiſdom to be neceſſary for me. Eccluſ. 23. 4.

Eſpecially, beſtow upon me ſome faithful friend that will admoniſh me, and take care of my ſoul to bring me up religiouſly in the fear of thee my God. Preſerve me from all diſtruſt of thy good providence. Give me favour in the eyes of others, by an humble, ſubmiſſive and good behaviour towards them. Make me diligent and induſtrious in ſome honeſt calling. And bleſs my labours and endeavours, that I may not be a burden unto others. But whatſoever my portion be in this world, give me grace to live ſo piouſly, juſtly and ſoberly, that I may not miſs of that *incorruptable inheritance, which fadeth not away, reſerved,* 1 Pet. 1. 4.

ſerved in the heavens for us; through Chriſt Jeſus. *Amen.*

A Prayer to be uſed by a Widow.

O GOD, by whoſe wiſe providence, which I humbly adore and reverence, I am left without my deareſt companion and guide in this our Pilgrimage; and thereby deprived of the ſweeteſt comfort of life: behold the deſolate and ſorrowful eſtate of thy poor handmaid, who ſupplicates thy tender mercy and compaſſion towards her. Comfort me, good Lord, with a delightful ſenſe of thy Divine Preſence with me; and draw my heart the nearer to thee, in holy love and devout affection, and a lively hope that thou wilt never leave me nor forſake me.

I ought to thank thee at all times for the many tokens of thy love towards me; and particularly for lending me this bleſſing ſo long, the value of

of which I now feel, by the want I am in of its ſupport. Pardon me, I beſeech thee, that I have not been ſo thankful for it, and the reſt of thy mercies, as I ought: nor ſo carefully improved them as I might have done. *O take not away thy loving kindneſs from me in diſpleaſure.* But vouchſafe ſtill the continuance of thy favour towards me; eſpecially the ſupport of thy Divine Grace by the power of the Holy Ghoſt, to enable me to bear this affliction with an humble, meek and patient ſpirit.

Moderate all my paſſions. Free me from all diſcontented and diſtruſtful thoughts. Help me to caſt all my care on thee, *who relieveſt the fatherleſs and widow, and careſt even for the ſtranger.* Pſal. 146. 9. Fix my mind upon thy love in the Lord Jeſus; in whom thou wouldeſt have us to *rejoyce always.* Lift up my thoughts to thoſe heavenly enjoyments in that bleſſed place where he is; [*to which I hope my husband is departed.*]

parted] And help me to follow after him with all diligence in a pure, grave and godly converſation, and by a careful education of my Children, to endeavour that they may be alſo with us in that glory.

Let thy bleſſing ever reſt upon them. And now that they are left to me alone, give me ſo much the more wiſdom to inſtruct and govern them aright; and ſo much the more love to them and tender affection to their good and welfare. Make them to be a comfort for me in my Widowhood by their increaſe in godlineſs; that we may chearfully ſerve thee together, in Prayérs and Thankſgivings and reading of thy holy Word, and Communion with our bleſſed Saviour, and all other actions of a Chriſtian life. Prepare us for whatſoever condition it is, into which thou ſhalt be pleaſed to bring us; that neither fulneſs nor poverty, honour nor reproaches, health nor ſickneſs, may ever ſeparate us from thy love in Chriſt

Chriſt Jeſus: but we may perſevere in patient obedience to thee till we receive the crown of life which he hath promiſed to them that love thee. *Amen.*

A Prayer for the uſe of a poor Servant.

O Lord moſt high; who art the *Maker of the rich and of the poor*; with whom there is no reſpect of perſons: Look graciouſly upon me, I humbly beſeech thee, who here caſt down my ſelf before thee acknowledging thy Sovereign power over all, and thy wiſe providence which hath diſpoſed all things into ſeveral ranks and orders for their mutual help and benefit. I humbly ſubmit to the ſtate and condition wherein thou haſt been pleaſed to place me, below many other. I thank thee that I live; and that I live in health; and have ſtrength of body; (great and invaluable bleſſings!)

Prov. 22. 2.

ſings! and that I have ſo much liberty as to make my requeſts unto thee, and acknowledge thy mercies; and that I have any hope thou wilt never ceaſe to do me good, till thou haſt crowned all thy mercies in eternal life.

Good Lord, pardon me, if I have at any time murmur'd and repin'd at my condition, or envied the higher eſtate of other perſons. Pardon all my other offences, whatſoever they have been; and vouchſafe but to deliver me from the bondage of ſin and to make me a Servant of Righteouſneſs, and I ſhall not only be contented, but perpetually rejoyce in thy Salvation.

Endue me with a right underſtanding of my duty in this relation wherein I ſtand. That according to thy command, I may account thoſe whom I ſerve *worthy of all honour*; being careful *to pleaſe them in all things never contradicting, nor purloy-*

1 Tim. 6. 1. Tit. 2. 9, 10. Eph. 6. 5, 7.

purloyning: but ſhewing all good fidelity; and with good will and ſingleneſs of heart doing ſervice, as to the Lord and not to men. Help me to demean my ſelf ſo humbly, and *whatſoever I do, to do it ſo heartily*; that I may obtain favour in their eyes. Or if they be froward and hard to pleaſe O God preſerve me from all unſeemly paſſions, and direſpectful behaviour towards them, and make me ſo much the more diligent in their buſineſs: remembring that *I ſerve the Lord Chriſt*, from whom I expect to *receive the reward of the inheritance.*

Coloſſ. 3. 23, 25.

Coloſſ. 3. 23. 25.

If thou art pleaſed any other way to afflict me, with ſickneſs or pains in my body, which may hinder my labour and caſt me into poverty, Lord, ſtill ſtrengthen my faith and confidence in thee. And help to bear it with a patient mind; looking unto Jeſus who took upon him the form of a ſervant, and became poor and ſuffered

fered much for our ſakes; but now is therefore highly exalted to ſuccour and comfort all thoſe that follow after him contentedly in well doing. In his Name and Words I commend my ſelf unto thy mercy, ſaying,

Our Father, &c.

A Country-man's *Prayer for fruitful Seaſons.*

O God the Creator and Preſerver of all things, who *cauſeth the graſs to grow for the Cattle, and Herb for the ſervice of Man: who bringeſt forth food out of the Earth, and bleſſed the ſpringing thereof.* Be pleaſed Graciouſly to look down from thy holy habitation, from Heaven, upon us thy people, and upon the Land wherein we dwell. That both it may become fruitful, and yield its increaſe; and we alſo may grow

Pſal. 104. 14. 70. 10.

Deut. 26. 15.

grow in all wiſdom and goodneſs, and bring forth plenteouſly the fruit of good works; to the honour and praiſe of thy name, and to our perpetual comfort, both in this world and in the world to come, through Chriſt Jeſus our Saviour. *Amen.*

A Prayer when the Weather is Unſeaſonable.

O God who for our unthankfulneſs and abuſe of thy bleſſings art juſtly diſpleaſed at us; and doſt now puniſh us [*with the want of the ſhowers of Heaven* *] whereby we are in danger to loſe the labour of our hands: be pleaſed to accept of our unfeigned repentance, and mercifully to forgive the ſins of thy People.

* *Or with immoderate ſhowers.*

Viſit the earth again, and water it; make it ſoft with ſhowers, and let the clouds

clouds drop fatneſs on it; [or, * *let not the flouds of water overflow us, nor the ſeed be rotten under the clod:* but] as the fields now languiſh, *and joy is withered away from the ſons of men:* ſo let thy goodneſs *renew the face of the earth,* and make the paſtures and the fields *to ſhout for joy, and ſing.*

* *In a time of immoderate rain.*

Joel 2. 17.

Joel 1. 11.

Pſal. 104. 30.

Lord hear the cry of the poor and needy. Let it ſuffice that we *eat our bread in the ſweat of our brows:* but do not puniſh us with ſcarcity of bread which is the ſtaff and ſupport of our life. Have pity upon our perpetual labour and toil, and let us reap the fruit of it: for Jeſus Chriſt his ſake, who *was made a curſe for us*; that we might inherit a bleſſing. To him, with thee, O Father of mercies, and the Holy Ghoſt, be all honour, glory and praiſe, both now and for ever. *Amen.*

Gen. 3. 19.

Gal. 3. 13.

A

A Thankſgiving for a good Harveſt.

WE praiſe thee. O God, who haſt *opened to us thy good treaſure: and given us rain from Heaven and fruitfull ſeaſons, filling our hearts with food and gladneſs.* Bleſſed be God for the plenty wherewith he hath loaded the Earth; and for the fair weather he hath ſent us, that we might gather it into our Barns.

Deut. 28. 12. Acts 14. 17.

He maketh graſs to grow upon the mountaines; He giveth to the beaſt his food; and he filleth us with the fineſt of the wheat. He watcheth the Earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give ſeed to the ſower, and bread to the eater.

Pſal. 147. 8, 9, 14. Iſa. 55. 10.

To him therefore be the praiſe, for theſe and all other his benefits. Let all the world rejoice and be glad in him; who *prepares a table for us, and ſatisfies our mouths with good things,*

and makes our Cup to run over. O that our hearts may even overflow with love and thankfulneſs to him. O that we may never forget nor abuſe his Goodneſs, but by a ſober, charitable and pious uſe of theſe his Bleſſings, we may be made fit for the continual encreaſe of them; till they all conclude in eternal life. Which I moſt humbly crave for the ſake of Chriſt Jeſus, our bleſſed Lord and Saviour; to whom with the Father, and the Holy Ghoſt, (from whoſe bounteous love we receive all good things) be all honour and praiſe, and hearty obedience, both now and evermore. *Amen.*

A Prayer for the uſe of a Judge, *or other Magiſtrate.*

O God, the Supreme Lord and Governour of the World; *who haſt made all things with thy word; and ordained man through thy wiſdom*

Wiſd. 9. 1, 2. &c.

wiſdom, that he ſhould have dominion over thy Creatures, and order the World according to equity and righteouſneſs, and execute judgment with an upright heart: Thou haſt choſen me to be a Miniſter of thy Kingdom, and a Judge of thy Sons and thy Daughters. But who is fit of himſelf alone to diſcharge ſo great a truſt? *Though a man be never ſo perfect, yet if thy wiſdom be not with him, he ſhall be nothing regarded.*

I humbly therefore addreſs my ſelf to thee, the Father of lights, the Fountain of every good Gift, *by whom Princes rule, and Nobles and all Judges of the earth:* Prov. 8. 16. that thou wilt beſtow upon me a wiſe and underſtanding Spirit, to enable me always to diſcern exactly between good and evil, and to pronounce a righteous ſentence in the moſt perplexed Caſes.

More eſpecially, I beſeech thee, to endue me with ſuch an honeſt and upright mind; that nothing in the World may ever tempt me from my

integrity. O that mine eyes may never be blinded by Gifts: nor mine heart turn aſide to follow after rewards. Let no love towards Friends, or hatred towards Enemies; no fear of theſe who are mighty, or deſire of popular applauſe in the leaſt corrupt my judgment to degree unrighteouſly. But remembring thine all-ſeeing eye, who *ſtandeſt in the congregation of the mighty, and judgeſt among the Gods*, I may always proceed uprightly, and regard the perſon of no Man in judgment.

Preſerve in me, O God this pious reſolution, by preſerving in me a conſtant ſenſe, that thou art higher than the higheſt; and wilt *judge all men, without any reſpect of perſons according to their works.* O that I may ever have the heart to diſpenſe Juſtice unto others with ſuch impartiality, as I expect to find my ſelf, when I appear before thy dreadful Tribunal.

Fill me with zeal and courage to puniſh vice and wickedneſs, though never

never ſo bold and befriended: and to defend and maintain thy true Religion and Godlineſs, though never ſo much diſcountenanced and deſerted That being true and faithful to the truſt thou haſt repoſed in me, I may receive a favourable Sentence from thy Majeſty, when thou ſhalt come to judge the World in righteouſneſs, by that Great Lord whom thou haſt ordained, Chriſt Jeſus the righteous. To whom with thee, O Father, and the Holy Ghoſt, One Eternal only Wiſe God, *be glory and Majeſty, Dominion and Power, both now and for ever.* Amen.

A Prayer of a poor Priſoner *for* Debt.

O God, who art preſent to us in all places, and haſt regard to the Sighs and groans of the miſerable, who humbly implore thy pity and compaſſion towards them; Vouch-

ſafe to look graciouſly upon thy afflicted Servant in this place; which is moſt deſolate and comfortleſs, unleſs the light of thy countenance ſhine upon me. I confeſs that I have too much abuſed the liberty which I formerly enjoyed; and did not ſo carefully improve, as I ought to have done, thoſe happy opportunities, which therewith were put into my hands. Many ways, I am ſenſible I have offended thy Divine Majeſty;* for which I am heartily ſorry; and acknowledge my ſelf infinitely indebted to thy Goodneſs, that I am not plunged into the depth of miſery, to bewail my ſins in the bottomleſs Pit.

* *Here acknowledge the Particulars.*

I thank thee, O Lord, with all my Soul that I am not ſhut up in the place of outer darkneſs; and that I have any hope to obtain the benefit of the redemption which is in Chriſt Jeſus. In whoſe Name I beſeech thee to pardon me; and likewiſe to ſanctifie theſe

theſe ſtraits wherein I lie, to the freeing my ſoul from the Bond of all iniquity, and the reſtoring me to the glorious liberty of thy Children. Help me ſeriouſly to follow the direction of thy Providence in this reſtraint; and now that I am ſo much alone by my ſelf, to deſcend into my own heart, to ſearch and try my ways, and unfeignedly to turn to thee, my God.

Enlarge my Spirit more than ever, now that my Body is confined, in fervent Prayer for thy Divine Grace, and in chearful Thankſgivings for the innumerable benefits that I have received from thy Bounty, and in tender pity and commiſeration of the ſad condition of all diſtreſſed people. And be pleaſed to touch the hearts of my Creditors alſo, with a ſenſe of my miſeries: incline them to accept of what I am able to pay, and make me willing conſcienciouſly to ſatisfie them to the utmoſt of my power.

In the mean time beſtow upon me the bleſſing of a contented Spirit. Help me patiently to endure the inconveniences of this place. And preſerve me from the danger of all the temptations which I meet with in it; eſpecially from ſeeking a remedy of my ſorrows, in the pleaſures of intemperance, or evil Company, or any prophane mirth whatſoever. Be thou my comfort, O God, my exceeding joy, and the full ſatisfaction of my Soul in all conditions.

And when thou art pleaſed to deliver me from this place, and reſtore me again to my deſired freedom: O Lord make me ever mindful of the Vows, wherein I am now forward to bind my ſelf. Diſpoſe my heart then to be ſo ſenſible affected, with the leaſt of thoſe mercies, which formerly I have little regarded; that I may never forget to praiſe thee even for the benefit of a ſweeter Air than now I enjoy, and to acknowledge thee in the Night ſeaſon upon my Bed,

Bed, and to thank thee for the coarſeſt food; and eſpecially I may rejoyce to go again into the great Congregation to praiſe thee with moſt ardent love for all ſpiritual Bleſſings in Chriſt Jeſus.

Preſerve in me alſo a grateful remembrance of the kindneſs of my Friends and Neighbours: eſpecially of thoſe perſons to whom I ſtand particularly indebted, when by their charity I ſhall be releaſed. And whatſoever loſs they ſuſtain by my poverty, good Lord, make it up abundantly to them and theirs, out of thy rich grace and mercy. Requite their love with plenty and proſperity in this World; and give them the reward of eternal Life and Glory in the World to come; through Chriſt Jeſus. *Amen.*

A Prayer of a great Maleſactor *in Priſon.*

O Moſt holy and righteous Judge of the whole World; give a ſinful and miſerable Wretch leave to proſtrate himſelf before the Throne of thy Grace, and implore that mercy which formerly I have deſpiſed or abuſed. I am not worthy, I confeſs to lift up mine Eyes towards Heaven, and it Becomes me in the greateſt dejection of Spirit to ſigh and groan under the load of my ſins: which have been ſo great and many, ſo bold, ſo preſumptuous and ſhameleſs, that when with an awakened mind I reflect upon them, I am ready to ſink into Hell, and utterly deſpair of any mercy.

Prov. 5. 12, 13. O God, *How have I hated inſtruction, and my heart deſpiſed reproof? and have not obeyed the voice of my Teachers, nor inclined mine ear to them that admoniſhed*

ed me? How ſwift have my feet been to run into evil? and how backward and averſe have I been to any thing that is good? O the injuries which I have done my Neighbours! the abuſe of my ſelf, and of thy good Creatures! The prophane contempt or neglect of thee and the Duties of thy Worſhip and Service! * The remembrance of all this is dreadful, the burden of its intolerable.

* *Here let him reckon up the Blaſphemy, Debauchery, and Violence that he hath been guilty of.*

How ſhall I appear before thee, at whoſe rebuke the Mountains quake, ſince I cannot think of appearing before an earthly Judge without ſhame and affrightment of Spirit? O Lord, work in me a greater dread of thee with a greater ſhame and confuſion of face, now that I am in thy preſence. For which end, be pleaſed to repreſent unto me effectually, the wickedneſs, the baſeneſs and vileneſs of all my evil doings, as well as the guilt and juſt deſert of them. O that I

could

could hate and abhor them, more than that death *, which I expect ſhortly to ſuffer for them! Beſtow on me that ingenuous and godly ſorrow which worketh repentance, and unfeigned purpoſes of amendment of life. They come too late indeed, I may juſtly think, to find acceptance with thee: and therefore not without fear and trembling, and a great ſenſe of my undeſervings, I look up unto thee; acknowledging thy infinite Goodneſs if thou wilt vouchſafe but the ſmalleſt hope of mercy.

* *Or* Puniſhment; *when the Crime is leſs.*

Mercy, mercy good Lord: caſt me not quite out of thy ſight, for Jeſus Chriſt his ſake, who gave himſelf for us to redeem us from all iniquity. It is the beginning of ſome mercy, and an earneſt, I hope, of more, that thou haſt made me ſenſible of mine offences; and that thou haſt wrought in me a reſolution to forſake them, and ſome love to a godly, ſober and righteous

righteous life. Help me to manifeſt the ſincerity and uprightneſs of my Soul in theſe reſolutions, as much as I am able; by giving thee hearty thanks that the hand of Juſtice hath overtaken and laid hold upon me, and put a ſtop to the further miſchief which I might have committed; and by making a free and open confeſſion of my crimes, and taking the ſhame which belongs to me, before others; and by acknowledging that I am unworthy to live; and by earneſt admoniſhments to all, to be warned by my example, and to ceaſe betimes to do evil, and learn to do well.

O God, that I could glorifie thee a little in my latter end, after this manner. And till I come to receive my deſerved puniſhment, help me to ſpend my time in bewailing my ſins; in humbling my ſelf before thee for them; in ſetting my heart againſt them; in ſtudying and admiring with the greateſt affection the holy life of the Lord Jeſus: in calling other Offenders

fenders to repentance, and exhorting them thereby to give thee Glory. Deny me not the Grace, I beſeech thee, to enable me thus to employ my ſelf; that I may have ſome taſt of thy mercy, and the fear of death may be abated by ſome hope, that when my Soul ſhall be parted from the Body, thou, O bleſſed Jeſus, wilt receive it, though ſo unworthy, into ſome of thy Heavenly Manſions. *Amen, Amen.*

Our Father, &c.

A Soldier's *Prayer that fights for his Country.*

O Moſt mighty Lord, the Fountain of life and ſtrength and courage; whom all the Hoſt of Heaven continually obeys. I proſtrate my ſelf before thee in a religious ſenſe, that the fear of thy Divine Majeſty, a pure conſcience, and a ſtrong hope and

and confidence in thy Omnipotent Goodneſs, will give the moſt aſſured reſolution, valour and boldneſs to our Spirits in all dangers. Moſt humbly beſeeching thee to purge my heart from the love of every thing that is offenſive to thee; to pardon all my former ſins, negligences and ignorances; and to endue me with the Grace of thy Holy Spirit ſtrictly to amend and reform my life, according to thy Holy Word.

Many temptations I am ſenſible, will continually aſſault me, in this ſtate of life wherein I am engaged, But I earneſtly beſeech thee to defend me from the power of them, as I deſire to be defended from death, and to be covered by thee in the day of battle. O that no covetous deſires or greedineſs of ſpoil, no ambition or vain glory, no hatred or malice, may puſh me forward in any enterprize! But give me the victory over theſe and all other vile affections and paſſions, before I meet with any other enemy.

And

And graciouſly bleſs and proſper our Arms, for the defence of our Country, and the preſervation of our Religion, Government, Laws and Liberties. And whilſt we fight for the preſervation of good Order, Lord, give us all Grace to be examples of it our ſelves. That abhoring all blaſphemy and prophanneſs, all riot and lacivíouſneſs; and *doing violence to no man, accuſing no man falſly, and being content with our Wages,* we may adorn both our Cauſe and our Religion: and whatſoever the iſſue be, we may have peace in our own hearts, and living or dying may be accepted with thee, through Chriſt Jeſus the Prince of Peace. To whom, *&c. Amen.*

Luke 3. 14.

A Prayer for the uſe of one that is Aged.

I Adore thee, O Lord of Life and Glory; who art from everlaſting to everlaſting, and changeſt not: beſeeching thee to look graciouſly upon thy unworthy Servant, whoſe hope is only in thy infinite mercy; by which my life hath been prolonged to Old Age, and which is able to make me eternally bleſſed. I thank thee for thy inconceivable love in the Lord Jeſus, who hath given me ſuch a ſolid and ſtedfaſt ground of hope, to ſupport and ſtrengthen my heart, when all the comforts of this life fail me: and likewiſe praiſe and magnifie thy bounteous Goodneſs for thoſe innumerable Bleſſings, which time after time thou haſt beſtowed upon me, from the beginning of my life till this preſent *.

* *Let them be reckoned up as Particularly as you can.*

O My

O my God, help me always to ſolace my ſelf, now that the days are come wherein I have no pleaſure, with a perpetual remembrance of all thy paſt loving kindneſſes to me; and with thoſe hopes which I have of thy endleſs love in the other World. And the more my outward ſenſes decay, vouchſafe me the quicker and more lively ſenſe in my heart of thoſe good things which thou haſt laid up there, for thoſe that fear thee.

Preſerve me from all diſcontented thoughts, and peeviſh paſſions. Make me an example unto others of *Ho-*

Tit. 2. 2, 3. *lineſs, diſcretion, temperance, gravity, peaceableneſs and patience,* that ſo I may with the more authority be *a teacher of good things*; and *my*

Prov. 20. 29. *hoary head may be a crown*

Eccius. 25. 4. *of glory, being found in the ways of* righteouſneſs. *O how comely a thing is judgment for grey hairs; and for ancient men to know counſel!* Pardon me, good Lord,

Lord, that I have made no better improvement of my time and experience for the furniſhing of my mind with this Wiſdom, and with thoſe Vertues Pardon all my negligences, and all my offences.

* And fill my heart with a comfortable ſenſe of thy pardoning mercy in Chriſt Jeſus: that having no other burden but that of Age, to oppreſs my Spirit, I may rejoyce in thee as long as I live; and at laſt lay my ſelf down to reſt in peace, and return my Soul back unto thee chearfully, whenſoever thou calleſt for it; in ſure and certain hope of the reſurrection of the dead, and of that glory, honour and immortality, which thou haſt graciouſly promiſed us by thy dear Son, my moſt bleſſed Lord and Saviour, Chriſt Jeſus, with whom I deſire to live to give thee eternal Praiſes. *Amen.*

* *Remember them particularly.*

A LARGE

A LARGE FORM OF DEVOTION.

When any perſon is diſpoſed to ſpend a Day, or part of it, in Devotion; the uſual addreſſes to God in the morning, may be continued in this manner.

O Moſt High and Holy One, who inhabiteſt Eternity, and art God over all, moſt bleſſed for evermore. Happy are they who ſtand continually in thy preſence, and are always admiring, praiſing, loving, and obeying thee; and rejoycing in thy love and favour towards them! The higheſt Angels can deſire no greater bliſs than to be thus

thus knit unto him, and to live in ſuch conſtant union and friendſhip with thee. An happineſs, I am ſenſible, that is above our reach, who dwell in houſes of Clay, and groan under the burden of this fleſh; but which we aſpire towards, and our uncloathed Spirits hope for in the other world. And bleſſed be thy infinite Goodneſs, we are encouraged by Chriſt Jeſus to look up unto thee, for the beginning and taſte of this happineſs; whilſt we remain here below at this great diſtance from the Throne of thy Glory.

And accordingly I humbly proſtrate my ſelf before thee at this time, beſeeching thee in the Name of my dear Saviour who gave himſelf for me, that thou wilt graciouſly vouchſafe to inſpire me with ſuch delightful thoughts of thee, and ſuch a tranſforming love unto thee, as may fill my heart with unſpeakable joy and ſatisfaction, whilſt I am in thy preſence to admire and adore thee; to

praiſe

praiſe thy incomprehenſible perfections to acknowledge with all humility my intire dependance on thee; thankfully to remember all the benefits thou haſt done unto me; ſorrowfully to bewail my ungrateful behaviour towards thee; moſt earneſtly to deprecate thy diſpleaſure; to implore thy grace and favour; and to make an abſolute ſurrender of my ſelf to thee, with moſt hearty Devotion to thy ſervice.

It is the unfeigned deſire of my Soul to ſpend ſome time in attending wholly to theſe Duties; the better to diſpoſe me to ſerve thee, in the reſt of my life. But alaſs! O Lord, what am I, or what can I do, unleſs thou wilt make thy ſelf preſent to me, and ſend down thy holy Spirit upon me! My thoughts and affections are exceeding dull and heavy; and they will ſoon flag and grow weary; unleſs thou wilt be pleaſed by thy Almighty Power, to raiſe and bear them up towards Heaven. I moſt humbly therefore

therefore again beſeech thee, in thy infinite mercy, to touch my heart with ſuch a lively ſenſe of thy divine Majeſty, as may fix my wandring thoughts, and compoſe my tumultuous affections, and ſtir up my flat and cold deſires, and may make me feel the power, and taſt the ſweetneſs of every Divine Truth: whilſt I read or meditate in thy holy Word, and whilſt I pray to thee, and praiſe thee, and bleſs thy holy Name.

O that all other things may be ſhut out of my Soul, and that I may be ſo alone with thee, as to be more apprehenſive of thy Greatneſs, and of thy Goodneſs, and of thy Purity, and of my near relation to thee, and the innumerable obligations which I lie under to be thine intirely! O that nothing may be ſo bitter to me as to think, that I have in the leaſt offended thee! and that nothing may be ſo marvellous in my eyes, as thy exceeding abundant love in the Lord Jeſus, by whom thou haſt encouraged ſinners

ners to place their faith and hope in thee!

Help me, O my God, through that new and living way which he hath conſecrated, to draw nigh unto thee, and to throw down my ſelf at thy feet; waiting for a gracious look from thee, reſigning my will to thee, ſtrongly uniting it in hearty affection to thy holy Will, and reſolving never to riſe up any more in oppoſition to it, but to live in thy love, and in ſincere obedience to all thy commands.

So ſhall my ſoul bleſs thee as long as I live; I will alway be ſpeaking good of thy Name, and will *ſhew forth thy praiſe* as well as I am able, *to all generations*. Amen.

AFter this ſhort addreſs to God for his aſſiſtance; conſider a while who it is, to whom you have begun to ſpeak. Caſt your eyes upon the heaven and the earth, and think of the glory of that Majeſty which fills all things, and cannot be contained in any. Then labour

labour to affect your heart with your own mean, vile and ſinfull condition. For which end examine what particular ſins you have been guilty of Set them down in writing before your eyes, that they may be confeſſed and lamented. And likewiſe conſider in the ſame manner, what particular bleſſings you have received, that they may be moſt thankfully acknowledged. In all which you may aſſiſt your ſelves and be much excited, by reading ſome of the Pſalms *of* David, *and ſome part of ſuch pious Books as you are acquainted withal. After which proceed to expreſs the ſenſe of your heart to God, with the greateſt deliberation, in the manner following: pauſing a while, and ruminating upon what you have ſaid; at the end of every part thereof.*

I.

O Moſt glorious Majeſty of heaven and earth, upon whom all creatures depend for life, and breath, and

all things. I moſt thankfully embrace and deſire wiſely and faithfully to improve this happy leiſure, which thou vouchſafeſt me of retiring from this world, and making my reſort to thee;

2 Cor. 1. 3. *the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort.*

Rev. 5. 13. Thou art worthy, O Lord,

Pſal. 48. 1. Rev. 48. to receive from me and from the whole world,

1 Sam. 2. 2. *bleſſing, and honour, and*

Pſal. 145. 17. *glory, and power*; for *thou art great, and greatly to*

45. 7. *be praiſed.* All the Hoſt

Job 37. 23. of Heaven continually

Pſal. 19. 1. praiſeth thee; and ſo ought

Job 42. 2. all the Church on earth,

Pſal. 135. 6. ſaying *Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which*

148. 5, 6. *is, which was, and which is to come. There is*

147. 5. *none holy as the Lord,*

104. 24. 27. *for there is none beſides*

31. 38. *thee. Thou art righteous*

145. 4, 13. *in all thy ways, and ho-*

102. 27. *ly in all thy works. Thou loveſt*

loveſt righteouſneſs, and hateſt iniquity; and art excellent in power and in judgment, and in plenty of juſtice. The earth is thine, and the fulneſs thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein. The heavens declare the glory of God, the firmament ſheweth his handy work. The ſun, moon and ſtars praiſe the name of the Lord; for he commanded, and they were created. He hath alſo eſtabliſhed them for ever and ever; He hath made a decree which ſhall not paſs. I know, O Lord, that thou canſt do every thing; and that no thought of thine can be hindred. Whatſoever the Lord pleaſes, that doth he in heaven and in earth, in the ſeas, and in all deep places. For he is great, and of great power; his underſtanding is infinite.

110. 89. 146. 2. 111. 1. 148. 13. Job 11. 7.

Praiſed be thy Soveraign Goodneſs and tender *mercy*, which ſpreads it ſelf *over all thy works! O Lord, how manifold are thy works! in wiſdom haſt thou made them all. And they all*

wait on thee; that thou mayeſt give them their meat in due ſeaſon. That thou giveſt them they gather: thou openeſt thy hand: they are filled with good. The glory of the Lord ſhall endure for ever: the Lord ſhall rejoyce in his works. Thou always waſt, and ever wilt be the moſt holy, powerful, wiſe and good. *Thy kingdom is an everlaſting kingdom, and thy dominion endureth throughout all generations. One generation ſhall praiſe thy works to another, and ſhall declare thy mighty acts.* They all paſs away like a ſhadow; *but thou art the ſame and thy years ſhall have no end. For ever, O Lord, thy word is ſettled in heaven: Thy faithfulneſs is unto all generations. While I live* therefore, *will I praiſe the Lord: I will ſing praiſes to my God, while I have any being. I will praiſe thee. O Lord, with my whole heart, whoſe Name is exalted above all bleſſing and praiſe. For we cannot know the Almighty to perfection: His wiſdom is unſearchable, and his ways*

paſt

paſt finding out. His Name alone is excellent, his glory is above the earth and heaven.

II.

O what high dignity is this! that I am admitted into thy preſence to ſpeak unto thee; the *bleſſed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords, who only haſt immortality!* 1 Tim. 6. 15. O how happy ought I to think my ſelf that I may draw thus nigh to thee, who dwelleſt in light unapproachable! who art ſo happy in thy own moſt bleſſed Nature; and who if thou doſt but open thy ſelf to any ſoul and filleſt it with a great ſenſe of thee, and affection to thee, thou letteſt heavenly joys into it, and makeſt it happy beyond expreſſion! For heaven cannot be ſeparated from thee; but whereſoever thou art, there is peace and ſatisfaction, joy and gladneſs, and unſpeakable bliſs.

Adored be thy Divine Goodneſs, which hath made me ſo happy this day, as to feel ſome ſenſe of thee begin to ſhine in my ſoul. Adored be thy Goodneſs, which encourages me ſtill to look up unto thee, that I may feel more of thee; yea, hath engaged me by innumerable Mercies, to continue theſe addreſſes to thy divine Majeſty; *O how excellent is thy loving kindneſs, O God! How precious are thy thoughts unto me! how great is the ſumm of them!* *Many, O Lord my God, are thy wonderful works which thou haſt done, and thy thoughts which are to me ward: they cannot be reckoned up in order unto thee; If I would declare and ſpeak of them, they are more than can be numbred.* By thee I was *fearfully and wonderfully made in ſecret. Thou art he that took me out of my mothers womb, and didſt make me hope upon her breaſts. I have been caſt upon thee ever ſince,* and thou haſt been

Pſal. 36. 7.
139. 17.
46. 5.
22. 9, 10.

been my gracious God unto this moment.

My infancy and childhood was attended with a very careful providence. And thou haſt bleſſed my riper years with a continual health and ſtrength of body and mind, and abundance of good things to ſupport and refreſh me in my pilgrimage through this world to a better life. I never have wanted my daily bread even when I was not able to ask it of thee. And thou haſt beſtowed on me many friends and kind benefactors. And prevented me likewiſe by a timely grace, and ſent me many Inſtructors; that I might remember thee my Creator, and Jeſus Chriſt my Saviour. Into whoſe Family, bleſſed be thy Name, I was early adopted and aſſured of thy fatherly love and tender mercy towards me. O how deeply do I ſtand indebted to thee for all thoſe, by whoſe Counſels, or Sermons, or Writings, or religious, Society, or godly Examples,

or charitable Prayers, I have been helped forward in my way to Heaven! Bleſſed be thy Name for all the means whereby I have been led to the knowledge of thy great love in the Lord Jeſus, which paſſeth knowledge.

For ever bleſſed be thy Name, for ſending him into the World, born of a Woman to be a teacher of righteouſneſs; to go before us, and leave us a pattern of a moſt holy life; to die for our ſins, and to riſe again for our juſtification; and then to aſcend into the Heavens to prepare a place for us; where thou haſt advanced him *above all principalities and powers, and given him a name above every name, that at the name of Jeſus, every knee ſhould bow, and every tongue confeſs him to be the Lord, to the glory of thee, O God the Father Almighty.* I glorifie thee, O heavenly Father, with all my heart and ſoul for inſpiring thy holy Apoſtles and Prophets; and *ſhining into their*

Phil. 2. 10, 11.

their hearts to give the light of the knowledge of thy glory, in the face of Jeſus Chriſt. 2 Cor. 4. 6.

I thank thee for calling me to faith in thee; for making ſuch great and precious promiſes to encourage our hope and for diſpoſing me in any meaſure, to be an inheritor of them. I thank thee for granting ſuch power to our bleſſed Lord, to fulfil his word; for making him a Royal High Prieſt, and appointing him to bleſs us here, and eternally hereafter.

Glory be to thee, O Lord moſt high, who haſt ſo often favoured me with the gracious viſitations of thy holy Spirit; enlightning my mind, drawing my will towards thee, exciting in me holy deſires, working many pious purpoſes and reſolutions in my heart given me a taſte how gracious thou art, ſetting before me the hope of eternal life, and perſwading me by innumerable arguments to entertain thoſe bleſſings which I ſhould have been forward of my ſelf to have deſi-

red: *Who can utter the mighty acts of the Lord! who can ſhew forth all his praiſe!* How often haſt thou ſpared me when I deſerved to be puniſhed! How many dangers have I eſcaped! From how many aſſaults of the enemy have I been guarded! and how many of his deſigns have been defeated by an inviſible and unobſerved Goodneſs, which ought for ever to be acknowledged!

Pſal. 106. 2.

* *Mention all the particular mercies you can remember; and then proceed ſtill to admire his loving kindneſs, in all thoſe you took no notice of, or have forgotten.*

III.

O my God, with what awe and reverence ought I to make mention of thy Name, *who dwelleſt in eternity, whoſe throne is ineſtimable, whoſe glory cannot be comprehended, before whom the Hoſts of Angels ſtand with trembling!* With what humility of ſoul

2 Eſd. 8 20, 21.

ſoul ought I to acknowledge thy Divine Grace, that thou who art ſo great and highly exalted, wilt humble thy ſelf to take notice of ſuch poor things as we are! Thou art to be admired with our higheſt thoughts; thou art to be loved with all our heart, and ſoul, and ſtrength: We ought to render thee moſt chearful ſervice; and confeſs that we never ſerve our ſelves more, than when we even loſe all thought of our ſelves, and forget all things here, in admiring, loving, praiſing, and giving thanks to thee.

All that is within me ought to bleſs thy holy Name. O how great ought my joy to be in thy love, and in thy ſalvation: who art *worthy to be praiſed with all pure and holy praiſe. Therefore let thy Saints praiſe thee with all thy Creatures. And let all thine Angels, and thine Elect praiſe thee for ever. It is good to praiſe God and exalt his Name, and with* Tob. 8. 16. 12. 6.

honour

honour to ſhew forth all his works; therefore be not ſlack to praiſe him. Yea to thee, O Lord, I ought to reſign my ſelf with the greateſt willingneſs of heart; to truſt and hope in thee at all times; to excite all others to ſhew forth thy praiſe; and to ſtudy to glorifie thee more and more, not only by my words, but with my body and ſoul, in all the actions of a ſober, righteous and godly life. I can deſire no greater honour in this world, than that I may live to the praiſe of the glory of thy grace in Chriſt Jeſus; walking worthy of thee, who haſt called me to thy Kingdom and Glory; and behaving my ſelf in all things, as becomes one that hath received ſuch pledges of thy love already, and looks for thy mercy unto eternal life.

All thy Laws, I know, are juſt and good. *Thy ways are ways of pleaſantneſs, and all thy paths are peace. More to be deſired are thy commandments than gold, yea than*

Prov. 3. 17.
Pſal. 19. 10, 11.
119. 165.
84. 11, 12.

than much fine gold: ſweeter alſo than honey, and the honey comb. By them doth thy ſervant ſhine gloriouſly; and in keeping of them there is great reward. He that loveth them, loveth life; he that holdeth them faſt ſhall inherit glory; and whereſoever they enter, the Lord will bleſs. Great peace have they that love thy Law, and nothing ſhall offend them. The Lord God is a ſun and ſhield: the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will he with-hold from them that walk uprightly. O Lord of hoſts, bleſſed is the man that truſteth in thee! Ecclus. 4. 12.

IV.

But the more, O Lord, I ſpeak in thy praiſe, the more, I am ſenſible, I reproach my ſelf; who have not given thee that honour and glory, that fear and love, that hearty ſervice and chearful obedience, which is due unto thee, ſo many ways. I ſtand condemned out of my own mouth,

of

of moſt fearful ingratitude to thee, from whom I have received ſo many, and ſuch ineſtimable benefits. How ſeldom have I thought of them? Or how little have they affected my heart? How loth have I often been, to diſpoſe my ſelf to commemorate the greateſt love of my deareſt Saviour? And how ſoon am I weary, even of the moſt delightful employment of praiſing and bleſſing thee; With whom I profeſs that I deſire and hope to live for ever, and praiſe thy Name? O the Vanity of my mind! the looſeneſs of my thoughts! the inordinateneſs of my deſires, and unrulineſs of my paſſions! the diſcontent of my ſpirit! the unſtedfaſtneſs of my reſolutions! the breach of my promiſes! the coldneſs of my prayers and the dullneſs of my meditations! the loſs of my precious time, and neglect of good opportunities! my eagerneſs after theſe worldly enjoyments, and feeble endeavours after heaven!

I am

I am aſtoniſhed to think, that ever I ſhould diſtruſt thy providence, who haſt been ſo tenderly careful of me; or be unthankful for thy benefits, which are every moment poured forth ſo plentifully upon me; or be uncharitable to my Neighbours, when I ſtand in ſo great need of mercy my ſelf, and live continually upon thy bounty; or abuſe any of thoſe bleſſings, which thou canſt ſo eaſily deprive me of, or wholly ſpoil the comfort of them. And yet alaſs! how prone have I been to deceive my ſelf with ſhadows of Religion and Devotion towards thee? and to content my ſelf with the praiſes of thoſe divine perfections, which I have not ſo zealouſly ſtudied to imitate? O how unlike am I to the humble, the meek, the pitiful, and the patient Jeſus? Yea, how inſenſible am I of his incomparable love, which made him to lay down his life for me? How many ways have I injured my Neighbours, or neglected to do them good?

I am

I am conſcious to my ſelf of ſundry offences, not only againſt the rules of righteouſneſs and mercy, but of ſobriety and godlineſs *. And thou to whom all things paſt are preſent, who ſearches the hearts and trieſt the reins, knoweſt a great deal more. My ſecret ſins are no more hid from thee, than thoſe which are moſt open and manifeſt.

* *Here mention the particular acts of intemperance, uncharitableneſs, or any elſe you have been guilty of.*

And they are all the more grievous, becauſe a petty temptation hath too oft prevailed to make me neglect my duty towards thee. O how ſhameful is it, that a ſmall gain, or a momentany pleaſure, or the good word of men, whoſe breath is in their noſtrils, ſhould be preferred before that honour which I owe to thee, and thoſe infinite treaſures of thy grace in Chriſt Jeſus, and that immortal life and glory, which he hath promiſed to the faithful! and all this againſt the clear underſtanding which thou

thou haſt given me of thy will againſt many holy purpoſes, reſolutions and vows of abſolute obedience to it in all things; and againſt the taſtes I have had how gracious thou art, and how good it is to keep thy Commandments.

V.

I bluſh, O Lord, to lift up mine eyes towards Heaven. To me belongs nothing but ſhame and confuſion of face; in which I ought to lie down before thee, if I reflected only upon the baſeneſs and vileneſs of my deſcent; being the off-ſpring of diſloyal Parents, who were rebels and traiters againſt thy Divine Majeſty. This is a juſt reproach and diſgrace to the beſt of us. We were tainted in our firſt Father who hath left a foul blot and ſtain upon our Nature: and we feel that weakneſs in our reaſon, that ſtrength and violence in our paſſions, and that forwardneſs

wardneſs in our wills to follow them, and to be led by them, which is ſufficient to humble and lay us low in our own eyes. With what dejection of Spirit then ought I to mention all thoſe offences, whereby I or others have juſtified that firſt rebellion, and ſtill taken part with the Devil and his Angels, againſt thee and the motions of thy holy Spirit in our hearts.

Thy mercy indeed is ſo much the more miraculous, which hath beſtowed ſuch great benefits, as I have acknowledged, upon ſuch vile, ſuch ſinful, ſuch unthankful wretches, and at the beſt ſuch unprofitable creatures; whoſe underſtanding are ſo ſhallow to comprehend and admire thy love; whoſe affection are ſo heavy, ſo liftleſs, and ſo unapt to lay it to heart; and who, when they have done all that they can, have done no more than was their duty to do. But the greater reaſon there is that I ſhould be confounded at the remembrance

membrance of my diſobedience to thee, notwithſtanding ſuch unexpected, as well as undeſerved demonſtrations of thy love and grace towards mankind. It becomes me to bow my ſelf lower than my knees before thee; and to debaſe my ſelf as much as I am able in thy preſence; ſince I am but ſinful duſt and aſhes, that deſerves to be caſt down, even into the pit of deſtruction. The very multitude of my offences is enough to amaze and perplex my thoughts; the weight of them, did I always feel it, may well depreſs and ſink my ſpirit into the greateſt horrour and affrightment; but the baſeneſs and ingratitude of them to ſo gracious a Father, O how——

VI.

I am not able to expreſs, O Lord, the ſhame, the conſternation and the trouble of my ſpirit, at the thought of that ingratitude. I loath and abhor

hor my ſelf as unworthy to live and breath upon the face of the earth. I am aſtoniſhed at thy wonderful patience, and long ſuffering, which not only endures ſuch a wretch as I am; but permits me to ſpeak unto thee, and to cry for mercy to that love, which I have ſo much abuſed. O that I were ſenſibly affected with ſomething of thee! That at leaſt thy ſparing and forbearing mercy did mightily move, and everlaſtingly poſſeſs my heart with admiration of it! That ſo I may with the more ingenuous ſorrow and grief bewail mine offences, againſt ſuch tender! bowels of compaſſion towards me.

Jer. 9. 1. *O that my head were waters, and mine eyes a fountain of tears*, that I might weep bitterly for my unkind requitals of the infinite bounty of thee my Creator, and of the unconceivable love of my bleſſed Saviour, and of the unwearied grace of thy holy Spirit; which I hope I ſtill feel working in my heart.

Fill

Fill me, O God, with the ſaddeſt remembrance of all my follies: and poſſeſs my reaſon ſo much againſt them, that I may have an utter hatred and deteſtation of them, as the greateſt offences to me, as well as to thy Divine Majeſty. It is eaſier, I know, to make large confeſſions, than to be truly contrite and broken in heart: and we are more inclined to ſigh and groan under the ſenſe of thy diſpleaſure, than to *abhor that which is evil, and to cleave to that which is good.* Be thou therefore pleaſed, O Lord the Father of our ſpirits, to wound my ſoul with a lively ſenſe of the vileneſs of my behaviour towards thee, *the God of my life, in whoſe hand my breath is, and whoſe are all my ways,* Eſtrange me from every thing, that will not let me love thee with all my heart, and ſoul, and ſtrength; by whom it is that I have power to love any thing at all. Set my heart in

Rom. 12. 9.

Pſal. 42. 8.

Dan. 5. 23.

in ſuch a perfect enmity to all things contrary to thy bleſſed will, that I may never be reconciled to them any more. And diſpoſe me to ſuch an entire affection to all thy commands, that none of them may be grievous to me, but I may account thy yoke to be eaſie, and thy burden to be light.

And then *be merciful unto me*, good Lord, *according to thy loving kindneſs: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my tranſgreſſions.* Be merciful unto me for Jeſus his ſake, who came into the world, and dyed to ſave ſinners. *O remember not the ſins of my youth, nor the tranſgreſſions* of my riper years: *according to thy mercy remember thou me, for thy goodneſs ſake, O Lord. For I confeſs mine iniquity, and am ſorry for my Sin. I acknowledge my ſin unto thee*

Pſal. 51. 1.
25. 7.
38. 18.
32. 5.
143. 2.
130. 3, 4.
85. 5, 6.
25. 11.

thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. Enter not therefore into judgment with thy ſervant: for if thou, Lord, ſhouldſt mark iniquities; O Lord, who ſhall ſtand? but there is forgiveneſs with thee, that thou mayeſt be feared. Thou art good and ready to forgive: and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee. Give ear therefore unto my prayer, and attend to the voice of my ſupplication. And for thy names ſake pardon mine iniquity, for it is great.

VII.

Great are thy tender mercies, O Lord, who haſt not yet caſt me away from thy preſence, nor dealt with me after my ſins, nor rewarded me according to mine iniquities. Adored be thine infinite Goodneſs, that I am ſo far from being caſt into the place of weeping, wailing and gnaſhing of teeth, that I do not yet ſuffer here the pains, and the anguiſh and miſery which mine offences have deſerved.

deſerved. I might have been lamenting them in thoſe doleful complaints of thy ancient Servant; ſaying, *Thine arrows ſtick faſt in me, and thy hand preſſeth me ſore.* Pſal. 38. 2, 3. 6, &c. *There is no ſoundneſs in my fleſh, becauſe of thine* 88. 16, 18. *anger: neither is there any reſt in my bones, becauſe of my ſin. I am troubled, I am bowed down greatly; I go mourning all the day long. For my loins are Filled with a loathſome diſeaſe; and there is no ſoundneſs in my fleſh. I am feeble and ſore broken; I have roared by reaſon of the diſquietneſs of my heart.* But thanks be to thy moſt long ſuffering Goodneſs, *thy fierce anger goeth not over me; thy terror hath not cut me off. Lovers and friends haſt thou not put far from me; nor, mine acquaintance into darkneſs.*

Yea, thou declareſt thy ſelf willing to accept me again into friendſhip with thy ſelf. And haſt in the moſt loving manner invited me to come

come unto thee, and bid me hope for a pardon through thy mercy in Chriſt Jeſus. O how ſweet are thoſe gracious words, *Come unto me all ye that labour, and are heavy laden, and I will give you reſt!* How precious are thy promiſes, *that thou wilt put thy Laws into our mind, and write them in our hearts: And be merciful to our unrighteouſneſs, and remember our ſins and iniquities no more!* Marvellous was thy mercy, O Lord Jeſus who ſent thine Apoſtles *to open mens eyes, and to turn them from darkneſs to light, and from the power of Satan to God that they might receive forgiveneſs of ſins, and inheritance among them, who are ſanctified by faith that is in thee.*

Matt. 11. 26. Heb. 8. 10, 12. Acts 26. 28.

VIII.

I receive with all thankfulneſs this thy exceeding great Grace. Which hath declared, that *if we walk in the*

1. Joh. 1. 7. *light as thou art in the light, we ſhall have fellowſhip one with another,* Eccluſ. 17. 19. *and the bloud of Jeſus Chriſt thy Son ſhall cleanſe us from all ſin.* I admire thy incomprehenſible love: *O how great is the loving kindneſs of the Lord our God, and his compaſſion unto ſuch, as turn unto him in holineſs!* It conſtrains me to offer up my ſelf with the heartieſt affection to thy ſervice: reſolving hereafter to be more watchful, more diligent, more zealous in the performance of my duty and to walk more circumſpectly as a Child of the light, and to make it my delight to do thy Will, O God. Behold, O Lord, my heart is bent to reſign it ſelf perfectly into thy hands: and to make a new dedication of all the powers of my Soul and Body to be employed continually in well-doing. Pſal. 119. 30. *I have ſworn and* 31. 11. *am ſtedfaſtly purpoſed to keep thy righteous Precepts. I have choſen the way of truth*

truth; thy judgments have 14. 15.
I laid before me. I will 16. 115.
ſtick unto thy teſtimonies: 111. 112.
and run the way of thy commandments. Thy word have I hid in my heart; that I may not ſin againſt thee. I will rejoyce in the way of thy teſtimonies, as much as in all riches. I will meditate in thy Precepts: and have reſpect unto thy ways. I will delight my ſelf alſo in thy Statutes: I will never forget thy word. Depart from me, ye evil-doers: for I will keep the commandments of my God. Thy teſtimonies have I taken as my heritage for ever: for they are the rejoycing of my heart. I have inclined my heart to perform thy Statutes alway; even unto the end.

IX.

Accept, I beſeech thee, the free will offerings of my mouth, O Lord, and teach me thy judgments. Give me underſtanding, and I ſhall Pſal. 119. 108. 34. 35. 10. 115. 116, 117.

keep thy Law: yea, I ſhall obſerve it with my whole heart, Make me to go in the path of thy commandments; for therein do I delight, With my whole heart have I ſought thee; O let me not wander from thy commandments. I am ſenſible of the exceeding great weakneſs and inconſtancy of our Nature, and that without thy gracious aids, I ſhall not be able to accompliſh theſe reſolutions. And therefore I look up unto thee, with the more ardent deſires, for power from above, to confirm and ſtrengthen them; and to aſſiſt me mightily to fulfil thy whole good will and pleaſure. I will ſtedfaſtly depend upon the promiſe of my bleſſed Saviour, who hath told me that thou wilt give thy Holy Spirit to them that ask it of thee. My hope, O God, is in this thy true and faithful word. *Uphold me according unto thy Word, that I may live; and let me not be aſhamed of my Hope. Hold thou me up, and I ſhall be ſafe: and I will have reſpect unto thy Statutes*

continu-

continually. Preſerve in me ſuch a lively ſenſe of thy good will and readineſs to help me, that I may be ſo *ſtrong in our Lord, and in the power of his might*, as to be *able to do all things through Chriſt ſtrengthening of me.*

O thou Father of mercies, who haſt beſtowed ſo many and ſo great Bleſſings on us without asking; who haſt viſited us ſo lovingly, when we could not deſire any Grace from thee; and when we could, but did not deſire it; and when we did, but very coldly and with little devotion of Spirit: deny not the humble an importunate requeſts of thy poor Supplicant, who moſt earneſtly beſeeches thee *that thou wilt grant me, according to the riches of thy glory to be ſtrengthened with might, by thy Spirit, in the inner man.* Eph. 3. 16. Arm me therewith againſt the aſſaults of all temptations, either from the good or the evil things of this life; that they may never ſeduce or deter me from my Duty: But I may do ver-

tuouſly in all Points, according to my Chriſtian Profeſſion and thoſe Vows and Promiſes, wherein I ſtand engaged to thee.

X.

Fill me, O God, with the whole knowledge of thy *Will, in all wiſdom and ſpiritual underſtanding, that I may walk worthy of the Lord, unto all pleaſing, being fruitful in every good work, and encreaſing in the knowledge of thee, my God.* Increaſe that faith likewiſe more and more, which *worketh by love, and purifieth the heart*, and *overcometh the World.* Stir up in me that lively hope, which may make me *purifie my ſelf, even as thou art pure:* and that ardent love to thee, which will make me cheerfully do thy Will, and love my Brethren, *with a pure heart fervently.*

Excite in me a *great hunger and thirſt after righteouſneſs*; till I feel the ſatisfaction of perfect reconciliation with

with thee, and conformity to thee. Continue me in the number of thoſe who are humble and lowly in their own eyes, and moderate in all their appetites and deſires, who mourn daily that they have offended thee, and that others keep not thy Laws: who are *meek and gentle towards all men*, in heart and word, and all their actions, who are *merciful* and kind, ready to give and to forgive: who are pure in all their thoughts, intentions, paſſions and converſation: and who ſtudy the things that *make for peace*; and who are void of all pride and vain-glory, of all ſtrife and contention; *endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.* O my God, poſſeſs me with ſuch a ſtrong ſenſe of the bleſſedneſs which thou haſt pronounced to all theſe; that I may be willing alſo to ſuffer wrong rather than to do it, and to ſuffer any thing for righteouſneſs ſake with a conſtant heart; giving thanks unto thee that thou wilt honour me, and

count me worthy *to ſuffer for the name of Chriſt.*

Help me to give a good example to all my Neighbours by the ſincere practice of all theſe Vertues, *ſhining as a light in the world,* and being *the ſalt of the earth:* That others *ſeeing my good works may glorifie thee our heavenly Father.* Diſpoſe my heart *to caſt all its care on thee; to pray without ceaſing to bleſs thy holy Name at all times; to truſt in thee* with a ſtedfaſt confidence in thy Almighty Goodneſs; to make thee *my ſtrength, and my fortreſs, and the rock of my ſalvation; to have my converſation without covetouſneſs; and to ſet my affections on things above where Chriſt is at thy right hand. In the multitude of my thoughts within me, let thy comforts, O Lord, delight my ſoul.* When I am full, O that I may never wax wanton, or forget, thee; but *ſtill rejoyce in our Lord alway:* that ſo when I *have nothing,* I may be *as poſſeſſing all things.*

Let

Let the doing of my Duty ever be my pleaſure: and to ſerve thee be a great reward. Let a contented mind be inſtead of all that I want: and a thankful heart ſweeten all my injoyments. Let patience always eaſe me under my burdens, and an intire ſubmiſſion to thy Will, breed in me a ſettled tranquility of Spirit. Let my delight be in the excellent that are in the earth; and my thoughts be very much there while I live, where I deſire to be when I die. That Heaven being my aim, my hope, and the longing expectation of my Soul, I may conquer all difficulties in my way to it; and go through honour and diſhonour, good report and bad report, proſperity and adverſity, with the ſame chearfulneſs and evenneſs of mind; till at laſt I come to that place of reſt and peace with the glorified Jeſus, who is able to give eternal life to them that obey him.

XI.

Bleſſed be thy Name, who haſt inſpired my heart with theſe holy deſires; and wrought theſe purpoſes and reſolutions in me. It is an earneſt I hope, of thy never failing love towards me; In aſſurance of which I repoſe my ſelf with full ſatisfaction of heart. Yea, this is my joy and my glory that I know thee; and that I live under the care of thy wiſe, merciful, and Almighty Providence at preſent, and that I have the promiſe of remiſſion of ſins, and of a Crown of life; *when the times of refreſhment ſhall come from thy preſence, and thou ſhalt ſend Jeſus* to conduct all the faithful to that glorious place where he lives. *This is my ſalvation and all my deſire.* Now that I ſee thy abundant love, O heavenly Father, it ſufficeth. Rejoyce with me

Acts 3. 19.

2 Sam. 23. 5.

Luke 15. 7.

Pſal. 103. 21.

me likewiſe, all ye Angels of God, according to the Word of our Lord, that *there is joy in heaven over one Sinner that repenteth. Bleſs the Lord, ye heavenly hoſts, ye miniſters of his that do his pleaſure.* And, O that this joy may increaſe continually by my daily increaſe in all Goodneſs, and the perfecting of my repentance! till I come to be admitted into their Company, and *enter into the joy of my Lord.*

XII.

And I wiſh the ſame happineſs to all Mankind, which I deſire for my ſelf. It will multiply my joy to ſee all the people praiſe thee, O God, to ſee all the people praiſe thee. O *make a joyful noiſe unto the Lord all ye lands.* Pſal. 100. 1. *Serve the Lord with gladneſs, and come before his preſence with Thankſgiving.* 95. 8, 9. *Give unto the Lord, O ye kindreds of the people, give unto the Lord glory and ſtrength.*

Give

Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his Name: bring an Offering, and come into his Courts. O worſhip the Lord with holy worſhip: fear before him all the earth.

More eſpecially, I deſire the increaſe of *grace, mercy and peace* to thy choſen people: Beſeeching thee to bleſs thy Univerſal Church, and to fill the hearts of all its Members with thy love: that they may reſt neither day nor night, ſaying, Bleſſed be God: Bleſſed be the glorious Majeſty of Heaven and Earth, whoſe Power, Wiſdom and Goodneſs excel all Praiſe, and endure for ever. And

Pſal. 10. 18. *ariſe, O God, for the ſighing of the poor and the needy, let not the men of*
14 7. *the earth always oppreſs*
21. 23. *them. Let the ſalvation*
of thy people come out of
36. 10, 11, 12. *thy holy place. Be thou*
7: 9. *exalted in thy own ſtrength, and ſo will we ſing and praiſe thy power. Lord continue thy loving*

loving kindneſs unto thoſe that know thee, and thy righteouſneſs to men of upright heart. Let not the foot of pride come againſt them: and let not the hand of the wicked remove them. O let the wickedneſs of the wicked come to an end: but eſtabliſh thou the juſt.

Protect, O Lord, and defend that part of thy Church which thou haſt planted in theſe Kingdoms. Great and innumerable have been thy mercies to us: but alas! we are a *ſtubborn and rebellious people; a people that ſet not our heart aright, and whoſe ſpirit hath not been ſtedfaſt with thee.* And therefore thou haſt juſtly plagued us many ways: and we ſhould have but our deſerts, if thy hand ſhould ſtill be ſtretched out to *puniſh us ſeven times more for* our ſins. *But what is man, that thou ſhouldeſt take diſpleaſure at him? or what is a corruptible generation, that thou ſhouldeſt be extremely angry with them? For in truth there is none*

Pſal. 78. 8.

2 Eſdras 8. 34, 35, 36.

among

Pſal. 79. 8, 9. 118. 25. *among them but hath dealt wickedly: and among the faithful there is none that hath not none amiſs. But in this, O Lord, thy righteouſneſs and goodneſs ſhall be declared, if thou be merciful to them which have not the confidence of good works.*

O be merciful unto us, be merciful unto us; and do not utterly forſake us. *O remember not againſt us former iniquities*, and that we have *ſo ſoon forgot thy works*, and the wonderful deliverances which thou haſt given us. *Help us, O God of our ſalvation for the glory of thy Name, and deliver us and purge away our ſins for thy names ſake.* Fill us with thy wiſdom from above, that we may be heartily in love with the Religion, which we profeſs: and preſerve us in it for ever. Defeat the Counſels of all its Enemies, and bring their wicked devices to nought. Unite us to each other in brotherly love: and make us at peace among our ſelves. O let

peace

peace be within this Church: *Let them proſper that love her, and ſeek her good.* Save *now, I beſeech thee, O Lord: O Lord, I beſeech thee, ſend now proſperity.*

And for that end endue our Soveraign Lord, the King, with all the Gifts and Graces of thy Holy Spirit. Hear the daily prayers of thy Church for him: *that he may always incline to thy will, and walk in thy ways: and ſtudy to preſerve thy people committed to his charge, in wealth, peace and godlineſs.* Enlighten all our Biſhops, Prieſts and Deacons with true knowledge and underſtanding of thy word, and enable them both by their life and doctrine to ſet it forth, and ſhew it accordingly. Teach all our Counſellors and Senators wiſdom; and give all our Magiſtrates courage and zeal to execute Juſtice and to maintain Truth. Vouchſafe to all thy people increaſe of Grace, to hear thy word with meekneſs and to receive it with pure and ſincere affection, and

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to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, Give them honeſt and good hearts, to honour and obey the King, and all that are put in authority under him; to ſubmit themſelves to all their Governours, Teachers, ſpiritual Paſtors and Maſters; to order themſelves lowly and reverently to all their betters; and to be careful not to hurt one another by word or deed; to be juſt and true in all their dealing; to bear no malice nor hatred in their hearts: to preſerve themſelves in temperance, ſoberneſs and chaſtity; not to covet one anothers Goods; but to learn and labour truly to get their own living, and to do their Duty in that ſtate of life, unto which it hath pleaſed thee to call them.

And, good Lord, bleſs the honeſt labours of all men among us, and crown them with good ſucceſs: Eſpecially of thoſe who have any work in hand for the Glory of thy Name, the encreaſe of Chriſtian piety, and the peace of thy Church. Reward

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the bounty of all charitable perſons, either for the honour of Religion, or the relief of them that are in poverty. And make the Bones which thou haſt broken to rejoyce. Comfort all that are in a ſorrowful condition: and bring them out of all their troubles. Send thy Angel to guide and preſerve thoſe who are in Journeys, upon their lawful occaſions. Let them that go down into the Deep, and do buſineſs upon the great Waters, obſerve thy Providence; and praiſe thee for thy Goodneſs, and for thy wonderful works for the children of men. Forgive all that have done me any evil; and requite the kindneſs of thoſe who have done me any good. *Let their ſouls abide in good, and their ſeed inherit the earth.* Pſal. 25. 13.

Rejoyce the heart of all my Friends: and fulfil the petitions of all that have deſired my prayers. *Let none that wait on thee, O Lord, be aſhamed: let all them that truſt in thee, ſay, continually, The Lord be magnified* 106. *ult.*

magnified. Save and deliver every one of *us, O Lord our God, from the hands of our enemies, to give thanks unto thy holy Name and to triumph in thy praiſe Bleſſed be the God and Father of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, from everlaſting to everlaſting: and let all the people ſay, Amen. Praiſe the Lord.*

AFter this, if the Spirits be tired, it will be fit to give them ſome refreſhment. And then it will be very profitable to read and weigh ſeriouſly our Saviour's Sermon on the Mount, contained in the V. VI. and VII. Chapters of the Goſpel according to Saint Matthew. *And ſuch Meditations may be interſperſed as are moſt ſuitable to the perſon's condition and occaſions; With the addition of ſome of the Prayers foregoing, for RESOLUTION in well doing, or for the DIVINE GRACE; or for good SUCCESS in any buſineſs, or for friends that are TROUBLED IN MIND, or are in a long JOURNEY,* &c.

And

And then conclude with the following Prayer and Thankſgiving.

I.

I Moſt humbly adore and worſhip thee, O Lord moſt high, the Poſſeſſor of heaven and earth: And admire thy infinite love to Mankind, whom thou haſt thought worth the expence of the blood of thy dear Son, and the conduct and aſſiſtance of the Holy Ghoſt, and the Miniſtry of Angels (by whom thou exerciſeſt a moſt watchful Providence over us) and ſo many gracious meſſages from heaven, wherein thou haſt plainly declared, that thou deſireſt to ſee us eternally happy by being made Partakers of a Divine Nature. When we ſeriouſly conſider thy glorious Perfections and thy aſtoniſhing kindneſs towards us, we may juſtly wonder at our ſelves, that we ſhould ever refuſe to be conformed to thy Will; nay, that we ſhould not be exceeding forward to

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joyn our ſelves unto thee, in moſt hearty love and entire friendſhip with thee, I am amazed at the dulneſs and ſtupidity of our Nature; that there ſhould need ſo many intreaties and beſeechings of us, to be ſo happy. It is impoſſible to think of thee, and to preferr any thing in our eſteem, and deſire and choice, and delight and joy before thy favour and good will towards us: who art ſo able and ſo deſirous to beſtow the greateſt bliſs upon us. And therefore I moſt earneſtly beſeech thy Goodneſs, that to all other mercies which I have begged of thee, thou wilt add this Grace to bring thy ſelf often to my remembrance, and to poſſeſs my heart with a conſtant, ſerious and deep ſenſe of thy marvellous kindneſs; in giving me liberty to chuſe ſo great a good as thy ſelf, and in propounding to my will ſuch everlaſting happineſs; and in drawing me from thoſe ways, which are contrary even to my peace and ſatisfaction here by ſuch powerful Motives to well-doing.

II. Awa-

II.

Awaken, O Lord, awaken this ſenſe continually in my mind. Faſten my thoughts upon thoſe unſeen and eternal enjoyments. Make me feel what an happineſs it is to love thee with all my heart; to cleave unto thee againſt all temptations which would allure or fright me from my Duty; to bleſs and praiſe thee with joyful lips; to be kept in perfect peace and tranquility, while my mind is ſtayed on thee; to be full and ſatisfied, and to deſire nothing more but to live for ever in thy love. O make me more and more to conceive and remember, what an infinite delight, thou the infinite good canſt pour forth into us; how highly our Lord Jeſus is dignified and exalted; and that *thou haſt made him moſt bleſſed for ever, and made him exceeding glad with thy countenance*; and that he will bring all thy Children

Pſal. 21. 6.

Children unto his Glory: Settle in my Soul ſuch ſtrong apprehenſions of theſe things; that they may purifie my heart more perfectly, and provoke me to an unwearied diligence in well doing, and make me *endure hardſhip* alſo, if need be, *as a good Souldier of Jeſus Chriſt, who was made perfect through ſufferings.*

III.

And aſſiſt me eſpecially in theſe holy addreſſes to thee; that *continuing inſtant in Prayer,* I may feel my heart lifted up more and more towards heaven, by ardent breathings after thee. And indue me likewiſe with ſuch a Spirit of Wiſdom, and ſuch ſincerity of heart, that I may never be diſcouraged, though I fall ſhort of the height of my deſires: but I may always thankfully acknowledge thy Grace, in what I have attained, and labour earneſtly to grow better, with a quiet, patient, even and ſteady mind:

Preſerve

Preſerve in me an humble confidence that thou wilt never forſake the work of thine own hands: and let that confidence make me induſtrious, but not ſloothful. And let thy holy Spirit bleſs and further my endeavours; and a fervent deſire and hearty good will preſs me forward; and the pleaſures of Religion mightily indear it to me; and the joy that thou haſt ſet before me, make me run the way of thy Commandments, with an enlarged heart. And the nearer I come to the end of my race, may it pleaſe thy Goodneſs to preſent me with a clearer ſight of that Crown of Life, which our Lord hath promiſed! Open to me more of the treaſures of thy Kingdom; and fill me with a greater joy in hope of the glory: that ſo I may be willing *to be diſſolved, and to be with Chriſt, which is beſt of all.*

IV.

And now, O Lord, what thanks ſhall I render unto thee for theſe holy

ly thoughts, deſires and affections, which by thy grace, I feel in my heart; together with all the other benefits, which thou haſt beſtowed on me, or intendeſt for me? Great and marvellous things, O God, haſt thou wrought for the Children of Men; and thou haſt promiſed far greater, if we will but be truly grateful unto thee, for what we have already receiv'd. Thou ſendeſt one bleſſing, as the earneſt of another: having given thy Son to us, that he might give us thy holy Spirit; and given him to die for us, that he might give us life. Thou granteſt to us thy grace, that we may repent; and thou giveſt repentance, that thou may'ſt give us pardon; and thou pardoneſt our ſins, that we may be thy children; and being thy children thou deſigneſt to make us thy heirs together with our bleſſed Saviour. Thou giveſt us temporal bleſſings, that we may thirſt after ſpiritual: and thou filleſt us with ſpiritual bleſſings

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in Chriſt, that we may long for the accompliſhment of them in immortal life. There is none can declare the Goodneſs of the Lord. We beſt declare our ſenſe of it, when we thankfully receive it; and become as good as thou wouldeſt have us, and enableſt us to be. And how great, how free is that Goodneſs, which is moſt of all pleaſed when we are happy! and eſteems our doing our ſelves good, with thy grace and favour, the return that we ſhould make of thy bounty! Thou doſt us good before we ask; and thou giveſt liberally unto us, that thou mayeſt move us to ask more. Thou entreateſt us when we are unwilling: thou beſeecheſt us, that we would let thee bleſs us, and not put impediments in the way of our own happineſs: thou pitieſt us, when we have no compaſſion for our ſelves; and art ſtill careful of us, when we trifle away the richeſt mercies.

V.

O the exceeding riches of thy grace to the children of men! who can number all thy mercies? and who can underſtand the greatneſs of thoſe, of which we make mention? It is eaſier to ſpeak of them, than to be affected with the multitude and ſurpaſſing value of them: and we can ſooner be affected with them, than do any thing worthy ſuch excellent love. Our Praiſes and Thankſgiving conſiſt too much in words, and tranſient admirations, and ſudden paſſions. O that I had ſuch a ſerious, ſuch a conſiderate heart, as to return unto thee the conſtant, uniform and chearful obedience of a godly life! By which, I know, I ſhall not only moſt praiſe and glorifie thee, but do the greateſt benefit to my ſelf. And when I have done all that I can, I will acknowledge my ſelf an unprofitable ſervant, that hath done no more, than

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washis duty to do. I will eſteem all *my* goodneſs, to be the fruit of *Thy* great Goodneſs to me. And I will rejoice in this, that thou art formed in me, and that I am made like unto the Son of thy love; and that I have hopes through thy abundant and undeſerved mercy to live with him in his heavenly Kingdom. Which I beſeeech thee haſten, to the eternal joy of all thoſe that *love his appearing*. Amen, Amen. *Let thy kingdom come; that I may ſee the good of thy choſen, and glory with thine inheritance:* and we may all with united hearts and affections render our thanks unto thee, and ſing thy everlaſting praiſes.

The grace of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, and the love of God, and the communication of the Holy Ghoſt, be with me, and with all thy people every where, both now and always. *Amen.*

A Prayer in Lent, *or upon any publick* Faſt.

I.

O Moſt glorious God; who art from everlaſting to everlaſting bleſſed in thy ſelf; and who alone canſt ſatisfie the hungry ſoul, and filleſt the humble with good things. In a ſerious ſenſe of my own emptineſs and thy fulneſs; of my great needs and thy bounty and readineſs to beſtow thy benefits, I caſt down my ſelf before thee: worſhiping and adoring thine imcomprehenſible perfections, with a great fear of thy Almighty Majeſty, and an humble hope in thine infinite goodneſs, and an hearty love to thy purity and righteouſneſs, and entire ſubmiſſion to thy holy Will; believing thy gracious promiſes, deſiring to be guided by thy wiſdom, depending on thy providence, bleſſing and praiſing thee for thy

thy unſpeakable mercies to me, and earneſtly beſeeching the continuance of them; with a continual ſenſe in my heart of thy abundant Goodneſs to me, and to all thy creatures, and of thoſe duties which I owe to thee, and to all men.

II.

I moſt ſorrowfully bewail my careleſneſs, O Lord, that I have had ſo ſeldom, or ſo ſhort, or ſo cold and little affecting thoughts of thee: and that I have performed theſe Acts of worſhip and adoration, of fear and reverence, of faith and love, of ſubmiſſion and reſignation, of ſupplication and thankſgiving, with ſo little intention and earneſtneſs of mind, with ſo little zeal and fervency of affection, and with ſo little humility and proſtration of ſpirit. Nothing, O My God, is of ſo bitter remembrance to my thoughts, nothing is ſuch a load to my heart, as that I

have loved the world, at any time, more than thee; and purſued with greater eagerneſs the poſſeſſions, and pleaſures, and honours of a dying life, than the glory and treaſures of thy Kingdom, the joy and happineſs of eternal endurance. It grieves me to think that I have, at any time, ſo coldly entertained the glad tidings of ſalvation; ſo liſtleſly embraced the the loving invitations of my dear Saviour; ſo negligently improved the helps and aſſiſtances of the holy Spirit of Grace; and ſo faintly ſought. I ſorrowfully again acknowledge, that glory, honour and immortality which Chriſt hath brought to light by his Goſpel. How little have I been wounded with the dying and bleeding of thy only begotten Son for my ſake! How little concerned ſometimes in his paſſionate deſires of the happineſs of Mankind! How little melted with the ardent flames of his incomparable love! How little moved or perſwaded with his impor-

importunate intreaties! How incompliant with his inſpirations, diſobedient to his commands, and inſenſible of his precious promiſes, and fearful threatnings!

III.

I have praiſed thee, alas! but ſeldom or ſlightly, for ſo glorious an example, as he hath left us, of an holy life; for the effects and fruits of his paſſion and interceſſion; and for the Power which he hath obtained at thy right hand. And lother have I, too often, been to imitate his life, and to employ that power which he hath ſent me from Heaven, to bring my heart to a conformity with his pattern. How often have I received thy good creatures without ſuch ſerious and hearty thankſgivings for them, as they deſerve! and taſted their ſweetneſs, with little ſenſe of thee, or delight in thee, who art the fountain of all bliſs: How ſo-

licitous have I been to pleaſe men, and obtain the good opinion and praiſe of others; rather than to pleaſe thee; and to do thy Commandments, *the praiſe of which endureth for ever!* O the little envyings that have been in my heart at my Brethrens greater proſperity! and my aptneſs to be angry and peeviſh: to entertain ſuſpicions eaſily, to make wrong or unkind interpretations; to aggravate offences; and to keep too long a ſenſe of injuries! I hate my ſelf even for theſe things. O how vile then and odious are all thoſe ſins of injuſtice or unmercifulneſs, of which I may have been guilty!

* *Here confeſs them particularly.*

IV.

Be merciful unto me, O Lord, be merciful unto me; through the bloud of that ſpotleſs Lamb, which was ſhed for the ſins of the World. Remember not againſt me the vanity of my thoughts,

thoughts, the errors and miſtakes of my judgment, the pride of my ſpirit, the greedineſs of my ſenſual deſires, the violence and diſorder of any of my paſſions, the unrulineſs of my tongue, the inconſtancy of my purpoſes, or the baſeneſs and unworthineſs of any of my ends and intentions. O holy God, and merciful Father, enter not into judgment with me for the miſpenſe of my precious time, for letting ſlipt any good opportunities, or for my ill husbanding the many Talents, which thou haſt entruſted me withal. Let not the abuſe of any of thy creatures, the ill example that I have given to any of my Neighbours, my unthankfulneſs for a world of mercies, my inobſervance or forgetfulneſs of thy Fatherly providences, and my inſenſibleneſs of others miſeries, be charged upon me at the day of our Lord, or incenſe thy ſevere diſpleaſure againſt me in this preſent life. O remember not my immoderate ſorrow for worldly loſſes; my

exceſſive pleaſure in the abundance of any worldly enjoyments; the deadneſs of my grief, and the ſcarcity of my tears, for my own ſins, and the ſins of others; and the heartleſneſs of my joys in thee, and in thy Son Chriſt; and for all the good thou haſt done to me and to my Brethen, or which they do for thy honour, and the comfort of thy People. Let not any diſcontent with my condition, provoke thee to make it worſe: nor my want of love to thee, deprive me of the love of others; nor the breach of any of my reſolutions, be puniſhed with an indifferency and careleſsneſs of ſpirit: nor the abuſe of any of thy bleſſings, or unthankfulneſs for them, move thine offended Goodneſs to ſtrip me naked of them.

V.

But, gracious Lord, ſo pardon me, as to give me the grace of thy holy Spirit to change and renew me throughout,

throughout, in ſpirit, ſoul and body, and to enable me daily to amend my life according to thy holy Word. That's the hearty deſire and purpoſe of my Soul: which longs for nothing more than a power from above, to poſſeſs me with more ſteady and affectionate thoughts of thee; and to fill me with a more enflamed love to thee, and to all my Brethren; and to diſpoſe my will to reſign it ſelf in all things to thee, and chearfully to comply with thy providence and zealouſly to employ all holy opportunities of doing or receiving good, O God, deny me not this great grace, though unworthy of the leaſt; but ſtrengthen me with might by thy Spirit in the inner man. Let it teach and direct me in the right way; let it aſſiſt me to walk in it; let it conſtantly encourage my progreſs chearing and refreſhing me when I am ready to faint, upholding me when I am ready to fall, recovering me when I ſlip, enabling me with fervent

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deſires to implore thy mercy, and with reſolved watchfulneſs to ſtrengthen my ſelf from all temptations for the time to come.

VI.

Preſerve in me ſuch a ſerious and deep ſenſe of the worth of my ſoul, of the weight of all eternity, or the certainty and greatneſs of the glory which ſhall be revealed, that they may prevail more with me than all the honours and riches, and pleaſures of this life. Prepoſſeſs me with a clear underſtanding of the Goſpel of our Saviour, with a ſtrong faith, a fervent charity, and a lively hope, againſt all other things that preſs upon me, and ſolicite my affections, that ſo nothing may find admittance into my heart, but what ſhall ſubmit to thy laws, and live under the government and diſcipline of our Lord Jeſus. Inſtruct me how to make all my pleaſures diſcreet, moderate and uſeful to me;

me; that they may never take up the beſt of my time, nor devour the ſtrength of my mind. Teach me to uſe the riches of this world aright, and to do good to my ſelf and others with them. Diſpoſe me to look upon greatneſs or honours but as greater opportunities to do thee more honour, and the world more ſervice. Moderate all my paſſions, and ſubdue them perfectly to the obedience of Reaſon and Religion. O that all my converſation with others may be innocent and profitable; and my private retirements more devout and heavenly: and all my employments without inordinate cares and fears, or any diſtruſt of thy good providence. Help me to look upon long life as deſirable; only that I may have more time to root out perfectly all evil habits and diſpoſitions, to implant and increaſe all Divine Virtues, and to do the more good; that I may be better fitted for an happy life, world without end. *Amen.*

Our Father, &c.

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The ſame Prayer may be uſed in time of any publick calamity; and ſome of theſe following Prayers added, as there ſhall be accaſion.

A Prayer in time of Plague.

GReat and many, O Lord, are the ſins whereby we have provoked thee in theſe Kindoms, to ſend all thy ſore judgments upon us; *the Sword, the Famine, and the Peſtilence, to cut off from them man and beaſt.* It is only of thy infinite mercies that we are not utterly conſumed, and becauſe thy compaſſions fail not. Bleſſed be thy Goodneſs, that we are not yet delivered into the hand of thoſe that hate us; but only corrected by thy own hand, who art the Father of mercies. To them we flee now in our great diſtreſs; and beſeech thee, that thou wilt not ſhut up the bowels of thy tender mercy and compaſſion towards

towards us in diſpleaſure. But puniſh us; that thou mayeſt pardon us, and amend us, and make us a more devout, ſober, righteous and charaitable people, zealous of good works. Say to thy deſtroying Angel, Hold thy hand, it is enough.

Or if thou art pleaſed to have it ſtill ſtretched out againſt us, give grace to us who are yet in health to ſpend our time in examining our hearts and lives; in bewailing our offences; in ſettling our purpoſes of repentance and new obedience; in inuring our ſelves to delight in Prayer and holy Meditation; in giving thanks to thee for thy merciful preſervation of us; in preparing our ſelves for whatſoever change thou art pleaſed to make in our condition; and in doing good with compaſſionate hearts, to thoſe poor people, that lie under thy heavy viſitation. And graciouſly vouchſafe to beſtow upon them entire patience and ſubmiſſion to thy Will: and enable them with unfeigned

ed repentance and humble hope in thy mercy, to reſign themſelves and theirs into thy hands; that howſoever thou ſhalt diſpoſe of any of us, living or dying, we may be the Lord's.

Lord have mercy upon us, all, for Jeſus Chriſt his ſake. Amen.

In time of War.

O God who haſt juſtly puniſhed our carnal ſecurity, and abuſe of that peace and quietneſs which we have enjoyed, by making us *hear the ſound of the trumpet, and the alarm of war*; be merciful unto us, I moſt humbly beſeech thee: and awaken every one of our ſouls thereby, to ſearch and try our ways, and to turn unto thee by a timely repentance and amendment of our lives. Though we deſerve to be cut off by the ſword, which is unſheathed, as a *fooliſh people*

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that have not known thee; ſottiſh children, that have no underſtanding; who are wiſe to do evil, but to do good have no knowledge: yet *ſpare us good Lord, ſpare thy people, and give not thy heritage to the reproach.* Jer. 4. 22. Joel 2. 17.

O thou God of peace, who didſt ſend thy own Son among thine enemies, to make reconciliation between loſt men and thy ſelf, inſpire our hearts, and the hearts of all thoſe with whom we are at difference, with a love of peace: and incline us to hearken and conſent to reaſonable terms of reconciliation. And for that end root out of every one of our minds and hearts all pride and ambition; all inordinate deſire of greatneſs and dominion; all covetouſneſs, and greedineſs of wealth: all falſe opinions, prejudices, and miſapprehenſions: all anger, paſſion and cauſeleſs jealouſies: and eſpecially all ſtudy of revenge: all rancour and bitterneſs: all hatred and malice: with whatſoever

whatſoever elſe is contrary to the Doctrine and Spirit of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt.

Poſſeſs us with the Spirit of Truth, and love, and brotherly affection. Make us tender-hearted, and to have compaſſion one towards another; to ſtudy to be Peace-makers; to pray for peace; to ſeek thoſe things which will make for peace; and not only to ſeek after it, but to purſue it, to the utmoſt of our power. Direct to thoſe expedients which will happily unite, and tie us faſt together. Or if theſe miſerable differences continue, and cannot otherwiſe be compoſed, go forth, O Lord, with our hoſts; give wiſdom and valour to our Leaders; reſolution and undaunted courage to our Soldiers, and good ſucceſs to all thoſe enterprizes which are undertaken for the common good and ſafety of theſe Kingdoms. O God, let *us fall into thy hands, for thy mercies are great: but not into the hands of men, when they*

they are wrathfully diſpleaſed at us. And if thou art pleaſed to crown us with victory, give us grace to uſe it with moderation, juſtice and charity. O that we may overcome likewiſe all temptations to bold and preſumptuous continuance in our ſins againſt thee; and be ſubdued by thy favour towards us, to a ſerious ſtudy and care, how to *lead a peaceable life in all godlineſs and honeſty*; for the ſake of Chriſt Jeſus the Prince of Peace. Whoſe *grace be with us all Amen.*

In time of Scarcity.

O God who *turneſt a fruitful land into barranneſs, for the wickedneſs of them thou dwell therein*; pour down upon the ſinful inhabitants of theſe Iſlands, a ſerious ſenſe of their own undeſervings, and of thy righteous judgments, which thou haſt ſent upon them. That they may humble

humble themſelves before thee, and repent of their wantonneſs and riot, of their feaſting themſelves without fear and hardning their hearts againſt the cries of the poor, of their diſcontent and repining in the midſt of plenty, and their loathing the Divine food of their ſouls; which thou haſt juſtly puniſhed with ſcarcity of bread in all places.

Make us aſhamed, O Lord, and heartily ſorry for theſe and all other our offences againſt thy Divine Majeſty. And as an earneſt of better obedience for the time to come, diſpoſe the hearts of thoſe who are afflicted to ſubmit with meekneſs to thy puniſhment; and preſerve them from all murmuring at thy wiſe providence. Open the hearts likewiſe of thoſe who are rich, to ſhew mercy to them, and comfort them in their miſeries. The greater ſtore of proviſion any have treaſured up againſt this time of want; incline them ſo much the more to conſider the poor

and

and needy, and fear to oppreſs them. Enlarge their hearts in more abundant charity, by the advantage they make of this preſent Scarcity. And when thou ſhalt have turned it into plenty again, Lord, make us all truly thankful, and ſoberly to uſe thy bleſſings, and to bring forth plentifully the fruit of good living, to the honour and praiſe of thy Name, and the eternal happineſs of our ſouls and bodies, in that world where there is no want, but fulneſs of joy for evermore. *Amen.*

A Prayer proper for Ember-Week.

O God, *the Father of lights from whom cometh down every good, and every perfect gift*; I am ſenſible of thy great grace in ordaining a ſucceſſion of men to bleſs in thy Name, and to inſtruct us in our duty. I am ſenſible of what moment it is, that they ſhould be wiſe and good themſelves,

ſelves, who are to teach wiſdom, and recommend goodneſs and virtue to thy People. And therefore I moſt humbly beſeech thee, to inſpire the Biſhops and Paſtors of thy flock with the ſpirit of Wiſdom and diſcerning to make choice of ſuch only to be Stewards of the heavenly Myſteries as *truſt they are inwardly moved by the Holy Ghoſt, to take upon them the Office of ſerving in the ſacred miniſtry of thy Church.*

And inſpire likewiſe all thoſe who ſhall be admitted to that ſervice, with a great zeal for thy Glory, and for the honour of our Saviour, and for the Salvation of his people. Repleniſh them ſo abundantly with the knowledge of thy will in all wiſdom and ſpiritual underſtanding; that they may be apt to teach, skilfully divide the word of truth, rightly and duly adminiſter thy holy Sacraments, catechize and inſtruct the ignorant, exhort and convince gain-ſayers, ſatisfie thoſe that are in doubt, confirm

thoſe

thoſe that are well reſolved, comfort thoſe that mourn, abſolve the penitent, and convey bleſſings to all thoſe who are committed to their charge.

And hear, I beſeech thee, the prayers of thy whole Church, which are now devoutly offered to thee. And ſtir up all the faithful to ſend up ardent ſupplications; that thoſe whom our Spiritual Fathers now ſeparate to any holy Office, being the Children of faſtings and prayers, may be the more laborious and ſucceſsful in the work of our Lord, and prove eminent inſtruments of enlarging his Kingdom here on Earth, and thereby of bringing many Souls to his Kingdom in Heaven. For which I moſt humbly beſeech thee to fit and prepare us all by the miniſtry of thy faithful Servants every where, for the ſake of our great High Prieſt, Chriſt Jeſus. To whom, *&c.* *Amen.*

A Thankſgiving for any publick or private mercies.

O God moſt high, and bleſſed for evermore: who haſt beſtowed upon us the happineſs to know and underſtand thee, that thou art the Lord of all, and that thou *exerciſeſt loving kindneſs, judgment and righteouſneſs in the earth,* and that thou haſt ſaid, *in theſe things thou delighteſt.* Thou art to be worſhipped and adored with my continual praiſes and thankſgivings, who am here proſtrated before the throne of thy Grace, oppreſſed with the great load of thy mercies and benefits, which call upon all that is within me to bleſs thy holy Name. I have often acknowledged that thou art the Author of my Being; and that it is thy favour which hath made my life not to be a burden to me, as it might have been by innumerable miſeries. And now I heartily renew thoſe acknowledge

Jer. 9. 24.

knowledgments: and thank thy great Goodneſs for my long continued health, eaſe, peace and plenty; or that thou haſt mercifully relieved and ſupported me in any ſickneſs, pain, trouble or loſs of wordly goods that hath befallen me. Particularly I thank thee for thy late Bleſſings which thou haſt conferred upon me, notwithſtanding my undeſervings, and high provocations, which I have any way given thy Divine Majeſty, to deprive me of all good things.

[*Here mention the particulars in which you have privately concerned: and if it be the publick mercy of ceaſing a great* Contagion, *proceed thus.*]

Bleſſed be thy goodneſs, which hath preſerved ſo many of us alive in the midſt of a great mortality; and hath reſtored health again into the habitations of our Neighbours. Bleſſed be thy ſparing mercy which hath *delivered us from the noyſom Peſtilence*

Pſal. 91. 2. 7. *and when a thouſand fell at our ſide, and ten thouſand at our right hand, didſt not ſuffer it to come nigh our dwelling. Thou haſt been our refuge, and our fortreſs, our God, in whom we ought to truſt for ever.*

[After a *War* is ended, ſome ſuch words as theſe may be added.]

If it had not been the Lord who was

Pſal. 124. 1, 2, &c. *on our ſide, may we all well ſay, if it had not been*

65. 7. *the Lord who was on our*

29. ult. *ſide when men roſe up againſt us: Then they had ſwallowed us up quick, when their wrath was kindled againſt us. Bleſſed be the Lord, who hath not given us as a prey to their teeth. Bleſſed be the Lord, who hath cauſed Wars to ceaſe: and made our enemies to be at peace with us. It is the Lord, that ſtilleth the noiſe of the Seas, the noiſe of their waves, and the tumult of the people*

people. The Lord giveth ſtrength to his people: The Lord bleſſeth his people with peace,

[When *Plenty* is reſtored, ſay]

Thou haſt viſited the earth and bleſſed it; thou haſt made it very plenteous. Thou haſt crowned the year with thy goodneſs; and thy clouds have dropt fatneſs. Thou haſt bleſſed our proviſion abundantly, and ſatisfied our poor again with bread. Bleſſed be the Lord who hath cauſed the former and latter rain to come down for us in their Seaſon; and filled us with the fineſt of the wheat. We eat in plenty and are ſatisfied: Praiſed be the Name of the Lord our God, that hath dealt wonderouſly with us.

Pſal. 65. 9, 12.
132. 15.
147. 14.
Joel 2. 23.

But above all, thy great and glorious Name is to be praiſed, for thine incomprehenſible mercy in thy Son

Chriſt, whom thou haſt ſent unto us with better Bleſſings; to be the Mediator of our peace with thee, to heal all the Diſeaſes of our ſinful natures, and to deliver us from the power of Satan, and of Hell and Death, and to reſtore us to an immortal life. Thanks be to thine infinite Goodneſs, which hath taught us by him the way of truth and righteouſneſs; and made him an Offering for our ſins; and raiſed him from the dead, to the Throne of Glory in the Heavens; and ſent from thence the Holy Spirit, to enlighten our minds with the whole knowledge of thy Will, and to ſhed abroad thy great love in our hearts, and to be the earneſt of an heavenly inheritance, together with our bleſſed Lord; who is Heir of all things, having the Hoſts of Angels ſubject unto him, whom he hath appointed (bleſſed be thy Name) for the guard and defence, the ſuccour and help of all his faithful Servants.

I thank

I thank thee, O Lord, that thou haſt pardoned ſo many offences; and ſo graciouſly importuned me to return to my Duty; and afforded ſo long time and ſpace of repentance; and waited ſo patiently for my amendment; and continued to me conſtantly, as I muſt again confeſs, ſo many bleſſings which I have abuſed or reſtored them to me after a ſhort correction of my faults. I cannot wiſh for any other happineſs, but only for an heart gratefully to reſent thy love, and to delight to meditate continually on thy tender mercies; that ſo I may love thee more, and thank and ſerve thee better the reſt of my days, and live in good hope to paſs from all this happineſs here, to eternal bliſs. And this Grace thou haſt likewiſe promiſed to beſtow upon me; yea I feel the motions of thy Holy Spirit in my heart, exciting in me a ſenſe of thy goodneſs, and provoking me to love and to good works.

O my Soul, never forget the loving kindneſs of the Lord. Let his Name be daily bleſſed and praiſed with a joyful heart; for *his goodneſs endureth continually.*

Pſal. 52. 1.

To him I ought to live, and not unto my ſelf; for he is my Creator, and Saviour, and Comforter who daily loadeth me with his benefits. Therefore I ought to glorifie him, both with my Body, and with my Spirit, which are his. Accept, good Lord, of the unfeigned deſires and purpoſes which thou ſeeſt in my heart, in all things to be conformed to thy Will. And accordingly aſſiſt me always with the renewed influences of thy heavenly Grace, that I may grow in ſpiritual wiſdom and knowledge of my duty; and that I may heartily love it, and faithfully remember it, and give all diligence to perform it, notwithſtanding any difficulties that I meet withal to oppoſe it.

Enable

Enable me to maintain a conſtant ſenſe of thy Divine Preſence, to reverence thy Holy Name and Word, and to walk before thee in all Humility, Thankfulneſs, Patience, Heavenly-mindedneſs, and contentedneſs of Spirit. And help me likewiſe to exerciſe all Juſtice, Charity, Meekneſs, and Forgiveneſs towards all Men; and to live in a ſober, chaſt and moderate uſe of all the good things of this World. Let thy fear always curb the diſorders of my Paſſions; and thy Love be a Spur to my endeavours; and the Example of the Lord Jeſus, and all the Saints provoke me to zeal and fervency of Spirit; and the hope of Eternal Bliſs: Strengthen, encourage and make me conſtant in all the troubles and hardſhips of this Life: that perſevering in well-doing, I may finiſh my courſe with joy, and win the Crown of Righteouſneſs, which he hath promiſed to all the faithful. *Amen, Amen.*

Aſſiſt me mercifully, O Lord, in theſe my Supplications and Prayers, and diſpoſe the way of thy Servant towards the attainment of everlaſting Salvation; that among all the changes and chances of this mortal life, I may ever be defended by thy moſt gracious and ready help, through Jeſus Chriſt our Lord. *Amen.*

A ſhort Prayer for a Student.

I Look up unto thee, O Lord, *from whom cometh every good and perfect gift*, beſeeching thee to direct, aſſiſt and bleſs all the labours of my mind. Illuminate my underſtanding, O Father of lights, and lead me unto right apprehenſions of all things. Endue me with that humility and ſoberneſs of mind which thou delighteſt to reward, with more of thy gifts and graces. Beſtow upon me a diſcerning ſpirit; a ſound judgment; and an honeſt and good heart,

heart, ſincerely diſpoſed to employ all the Talents which thou haſt, or ſhalt inſtruſt me withal, to thy honour and glory, and to the good of Mankind.

For which end, I beſeech thee to excite my thirſt after uſeful, rather than much knowledge. And eſpecially enrich me with the treaſures of that inſpired Wiſdom, contained in thy holy Scriptures; which are able to *make me wiſe unto Salvation. That* growing in underſtanding and goodneſs, as I grow in years, my profiting may be apparent unto all men: and I may give a comfortable account of my time to thee, my God, at the Day of the Lord Jeſus. *Amen.*

A Prayer that may be uſed any time of the day, when a perſon hath leiſure to retire.

O Lord, the great Creator and Governour of all things, I proſtrate my ſelf before thee, in the

humbleſt adoration of thy incomprehenſible Majeſty: acknowledging that I depend intirely upon thee; praiſing and magnifying thy moſt glorious Power, Wiſdom and Goodneſs, which are conſpicuous every where; and rendring unto thee my moſt hearty thanks for all the benefits which thou haſt ſo freely and undeſervedly conferred on me. Thou art bountiful to the whole World: All thy Works praiſe thee; and we the Children of men ought more particularly to bleſs thee, and ſpeak good of thy Name, who have received ſingular marks and tokens of thy favour and grace above all the reſt of our fellow Creatures. Thou haſt made us after thine own Image, and endued us with reaſonable and immortal Spirits; and given us a capacity to reflect on thee the Author of our Being, and to be like unto thee in Wiſdom, Holineſs, Goodneſs and Truth. But above all I ought to remember continually that great demonſtration of thy love, in ſending

ſending thy dear Son to live among us, to die for us, and to give us an aſſured hope of Immortal Life.

I love thee, O Lord; I renew the Oblation, which I have often made of my Soul and Body to thee. I wait upon thee ſtill, for what thou ſeeſt good for both. I hope in thy everlaſting Mercies, that thou wilt pardon all my forgetfulneſs of thee, and ingratitude unto thee. And I moſt earneſtly implore the Grace of thy Holy Spirit, to preſerve in my Mind a powerful Senſe of thee; an ardent Love to thee; and an holy Care to pleaſe and obey thee in all things. That the very ſame Mind and Spirit may be in me, which was in Chriſt Jeſus our Lord; the Spirit of Wiſdom and Underſtanding, and the fear of thee; the Spirit of Meekneſs, Humility, Purity and Charity: and that I may do thy Will with ſuch Chearfulneſs, Zeal, Conſtancy, Patience, and Perſeverance, as he did.

I thank

I thank thee, O Lord, for all helps and aſſiſtances of that good Spirit, which thou haſt already favoured me with all. That thou haſt ſo frequently made good motions to my Soul; inſpired me with holy thoughts, and devout affections; and inclined and diſpoſed my will many ways, to the choice of that which is good. I thank thee, for the many ſeaſonable admonitions which thou haſt given me, for the happy opportunities which have been afforded me, for wiſdom and vertue; for a good education, pious examples, faithful friends, and all other furtherances in the way of Salvation.

I remember likewiſe, with my moſt grateful acknowledgments what abundance of good things thou haſt beſtowed on me, from time to time, for my better accommodation in this preſent life. Bleſſed be thy name for my continued health, and food, and raiment. Bleſſed be thy Name that my Bones are not broken; that I am not

not groaning under the ſoreſt pains; that I dwell in ſafety night and day; and that I ſtill ſee my friends and acquaintance, and many other comforts round about me.

I thank thee, O Lord, for theſe and all bleſſings whatſoever that thou haſt conveyed to me by the Miniſtry of thy holy Angels; unto whom thou haſt given the charge of me. *O bleſs the Lord*, together with me, *ye his Angels which excel in ſtrength, that do his commandments, hearkening to the voice of his word.* And enable me every day, I moſt humbly beſeech thee, O Father of mercies, to bleſs thee better; with a purer heart, and a more lively ſenſe of all thy love, and a greater delight in thy Divine Service, and a forwardneſs to every good work.

And as thou haſt preſerved me hitherto this day: ſo bleſs me the remaining part of it. That endeavouring ſincerely in all my deſigns, words, deſires and actions to approve my ſelf

to

to thee; as thy good and faithful Servant, I may with a good Conſcience preſent my ſelf before thee in the concluſion of it: and with the greater confidence of thy gracious acceptance renew my praiſes and acknowledgments, and commend my ſelf to thy Bleſſing, and hope for thy continued Protection of thy holy Angels; through Chriſt Jeſus. To whom be Glory for ever. *Amen.*

A ſhorter to the ſame purpoſe.

I Proſtrate my ſelf before thee; O Lord of Heaven and Earth, in all humility of Soul and Body. I acknowledge my dependance upon thee; and thy conſtant Care and Providence over me ever ſince I was born: particularly this day, in keeping me hitherto from many danger, and providing for me many good things; as well for the comfort and pleaſure, as for the neceſſary ſupport of this preſent

ſent life. Eſpecially I thank thee for thy exceeding great love in the Lord Jeſus; through whom thou haſt given me good hope of better enjoyments in the life to come, by following that bleſſed example which he hath ſet us, of all well-doing, and contented ſuffering.

It is all reaſon, O Lord, that I ſhould love thee, and entirely truſt in thee, and moſt willingly ſerve and obey thee. Accordingly I here again dedicate my ſelf both Soul and Body to thee. I vow my ſelf ever to thy Service. I hope ſtill in thy great Mercies, which have been ſo tender, and ſo abundant towards me. I depend upon thee, for what thou ſeeſt to be profitable for me. I referr my ſelf abſolutely to thy wiſe Will; reſolving to reſt contented and ſatisfied in that Condition wherein thou placeſt me. I believe thou ordereſt all things in Heaven and in Earth; and takeſt the greateſt care of thoſe that wait upon thee, and commit themſelves unto

thee,

thee, as I now do in confidence of thy Goodneſs and ſubmiſſion to thy pleaſure. Eſpecially I rely upon thee; for thy holy Spirit, to preſerve in me theſe holy purpoſes, and inſpire me continually with good thoughts, and ſtir up in me heavenly affections, and increaſe and ſtrengthen my faith and hope in thee, and aſſiſt my endeavours to do according to my pious reſolutions.

Bleſſed be thy great Goodneſs for what I have felt already: I thank thee for thy many illuminations from above; for thy Grace ſo early preventing me; for the aſſiſtance and furtherance thou haſt given me: and the happy opportunities I have met withal of improving my ſelf in true wiſdom and goodneſs. It is the earneſt deſire of my Soul to grow more in both, and to be made perfectly like to my bleſſed Lord and Saviour: By whom all honour and glory be given to thee, O Father Almighty, World without end. *Amen.*

A Grace

A Grace before Meat.

WE acknowledge thy Goodneſs, O Lord, in making this [plentiful] *proviſion for us. Pardon our ingratitude for thy former mercies. And bleſs us with ſuch a diſcreet and thankful uſe of theſe thy good Creatures, that they may not hinder us in our Duty, but better diſpoſe us to do thee all faithful ſervice in our ſeveral places; through our Lord and Saviour Jeſus Chriſt.* Amen.

Or this.

WE look up unto thee, O Lord, who giveſt us life and breath, and all things; beſeeching thee to forgive us all our ſins, and to make us ſuch thankful partakers of theſe thy good Creatures, that by a moderate uſe of them, our Bodies may be refreſhed, and made more fit to accompany our ſouls in hearty endeavours to do thee faithful ſervice, through Jeſus Chriſt our Lord. Amen.

Or

Or this.

WE renew our thankful acknowledgments unto thee, O Lord, for making again this merciful Proviſion for us, who are unworthy of the leaſt of thy Favours. Add thy Gracious Pardon likewiſe: and bleſs the ſober uſe of theſe thy Creatures, to the ſtrengthning of our frail Bodies. And endue our Souls with the Grace of thy Holy Spirit, that we may return back unto thee, the ſtrength we receive from them in well doing, and it may be as delightful as our Meat and Drink, to do the Will of thee our Heavenly Father, through Jeſus Chriſt, &c. **Amen.**

After Meat.

WE return unto thee, O Lord, our hearty Thanks for theſe and all other the like Mercies beſtowed upon us, ever ſince we had a Being; eſpecially for the

the promiſes thou haſt given us of eternal life, by thy Son Chriſt. Enable us, we beſeech thee, to continue ſo patiently in all good works, that at laſt we may attain it. And bleſs thine Univerſal Church, theſe Realms, the King, the Queen, and all the Royal Family; and grant us thy grace, mercy *and* peace, *through Chriſt Jeſus.* Amen.

Or this.

BLeſſed be thy Name, O Lord, for our continued health, and food, and raiment, and friends, and all other good things, whereby thou maintaineſt the comfort of this preſent life. Above all we thank thee, for thy love in Chriſt Jeſus, and the hope thou haſt given us by him, of better things in another World: unto which we beſeech thee to bring us by hearty obedience to thee all our days. Save thine Univerſal Church, &c.

Or this.

WE thank thee, O Lord, that we are alive, and that we live in health, and peace, and the enjoyment of all good things that are needful for the support of this present life and for the attainment of a better. Continue them, we pray thee, unto us and continue in us such a thankful sense of thy love, that we may live unto thee, by whom we live. Save thy Universal Church, &c.

A. 2565.

THE END.

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